



**UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI, COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES,
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK**

**CHALLENGES TO UNMARRIED ADOLESCENT MOTHERHOOD: A CASE STUDY
OF MASABA SOUTH SUBCOUNTY, KISII COUNTY, KENYA.**

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ARTS IN RURAL SOCIOLOGY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this project paper is my original work and has not been presented for any other academic award at the University of Nairobi or any other institution.

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DEDICATION

I would like to dedicate this project paper to the young mothers that I met while undertaking this research project, who told me only a portion of their stories, but through whom I have learned so much. As their struggles were made apparent, so was their love for their children. I would also like to dedicate this research project to my father Francis Nyagetia, my mother, Florence Moraa who instilled education fire in me, my sister Gladys, my brothers Omoro, Omanga, Ombworo and Ombese.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACW	African Center for Women
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
APHRC	African Population and Health Research Center
CEDAW	Convention on Elimination of Discrimination against Women
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CSA	Centre for the Study of Adolescence
DHS	Demographic Health Survey
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
KDHS	Kenya Demographic and Health Survey
KI	Key Informants
KIPPRA	Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis
KNBS	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NCPTP	National Campaign to Prevent Teenage Pregnancy
NPEP	National Poverty Eradication Plan
NSHP	National School Health Policy
PC	Population Council
SIFP	Studies in Family Planning
STI	Sex Transmitted Infections
UN	United Nations
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
WB	World Bank
WHO	World Health Organization

ABSTRACT

The study examined the challenges in unmarried adolescent motherhood in Masaba South Sub County, Kisii County. Its main purpose was to establish the challenges in unmarried adolescent motherhood and to find all the impacts and thereby recommend ways in helping the situation and finally to identify and explain how these unmarried adolescent mothers cope and adopt in these challenges they face.

Quantitative data were collected using structured questionnaires for individuals. The respondents were young mothers aged 15-19 years, who had had their first pregnancy between ages 13-19 years. Respondents were selected using stratified random sampling method from three sampled County Assembly Wards. For qualitative data, Focus Group Discussion was conducted with unmarried adolescent mothers, parents (men and women separate) and youth both young men and women. Also key Informants interviews were conducted with head teachers/principals, chiefs, religious leaders, opinion leaders and other administration leaders.

It was found out that ignorance, poverty and illiteracy, experimental or adventure drive to satisfy sexual curiosity and lack of mentorship by the parents are some of the factors that contribute to early pregnancy in the study area. From the findings, unmarried adolescent mothers experienced financial challenges, psychological torture, stigmatization, some were expelled from their families, dropped out of school, most of their friends abandoned them and to some, their fathers insulted them all the time. The study found out that the main challenges they anticipated if they returned to school were: unfriendly students, idleness/drug abuse, discrimination and criticism from peers and teachers when attending school. The study found out that communities have provided the awareness in order to reduce unmarried adolescent motherhood. The church has provided moral teachings which enable the young girls to be at right side of life and respecting their bodies. Community has tried to avoid and stop discriminating, undermining and stigmatizing of these young mothers and gave them moral support. Parents Support their girls afterbirth by providing them with basic needs for them and their babies.

The government has provided awareness on importance of using contraceptives and free family planning facilities. The government has introduced policies for re-admission of girls back to school after birth to finish their studies. Also government had provided funds to support them in small business in order to be self reliant. It punishes teachers who are responsible for pregnancies. The community initiatives have helped unmarried adolescent mothers to cope with them, they feel fully accepted in family hence they don't face much challenges compared to the time no one was there for them. Their parents support them both finically and emotionally hence they don't lack any basic need for them and their babies, and this has helped them a lot. The government initiatives have enabled unmarried adolescent mothers to be re-admitted back to school to finish their studies. This has enabled many of them to finish their studies and join universities and other colleges. The health facilities like health center and clinics, free delivery services, contraceptives and family planning are of great help to them.

The study recommends that parents and guardians should be encouraged to educate their children about reproductive health because. The study recommends that knowledge on reproductive biology should be taught in schools from elementary level which will help greatly in combating the problem of adolescent pregnancies.

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problem

Adolescents are those aged between 15 to 19 (UNFPA, 2012). According to Learner and Steinberg (2004), adolescence is a stage where teenagers adjust in their physical and emotional changes in life as the community dictates; also according to Nsamnamy (2002) adolescence is viewed as transition period and preparation for adulthood. Adolescent pregnancies are different across regions and countries, age and income groups (UNFPA, 2013). According to Jones et al (1986) the teen pregnancy and motherhood are cross-national problems. Adolescent pregnancy and unmarried motherhood remain high in many countries in the world. Most of the world's births to adolescents, 95% occur in developing countries (WHO, 2008). According to Martin et al (2012) in the entire world teen births that are outside of marriage have increased nearly six fold since 1960. In sub Saharan Africa each year, births to adolescent girls aged 15 to 19 accounts for 16% of all births in the region (UNDP, 2010). The unmarried adolescent motherhood is widely viewed in our society as a serious problem. It leads to many challenges and problems which the young mothers encounter as they raise up their children. Parents of adolescent mothers are faced with double responsibility of taking care of the grandchildren while parenting their own children (Sands and Goldberg-Glen, 2000). The rate of sexual intercourse among adolescents has increased due to influence of technology. There is wide knowledge of girls about the world in present compared to the past at large, the use of contraceptive among unmarried youths is very low (Meeker, 1993).

Unmarried adolescent mothers are in danger and trouble since societies' norms and values term the act as deviance. When they give birth, it creates a lot of crisis in the family (Moore and Brooks, 2000). Those from sub Saharan regions, more so from rural areas, take early pregnancies as normal phenomenon. There are no strict mechanisms which have been set up in order to overcome problems and challenges they face. Community terms it as an accident or was predetermined to happen; in most cases they have more depressive symptoms in young adulthood (Luster and Okagaki, 2006).

Sub Saharan countries are the most affected when it comes to the challenges unmarried adolescent mothers encounter compared to other parts of the world. Most adolescent mothers come from poor backgrounds. For them accessing essential commodities which sustains them is difficult. Most of them live in rural areas where the highest rate of poverty is observed among young women (World Bank, 2009). They lead tough life with a lot of challenges and in the process their problems worsen. They engage in prostitution as a source of income. Society regards unmarried adolescent mothers as deviant to their norms, values and sanctions. Unmarried adolescent mothers are treated as outcasts and immoral, hence they are not supposed to be part of the community. They deserve no respect and serve as bad example to others. They can influence innocent girls to be involved in immorality.

Unmarried adolescent mothers face a lot of challenges from their family members and community. Girls are forced to get married to one who is responsible for the pregnancy. In most African cultures, the role of a girl is to be a wife and mother (ACW, 1997). In the process these younger mothers find themselves in streets. Others end up committing suicide since they are rejected by their families. They are married to reckless men who torture them day in day out. They don't run away since they were chased away from their homes and will not be accommodated back.

In Kenya unmarried adolescent mothers face physical challenges when they are being beaten and tortured by their parents. They lack a good and conducive environment to stay with their children. Also they face psychological and emotional challenges since they are not at peace. They are much confused on what to do since their own family members have disowned them. They fear what others are saying about them and community at large, how they have held their parents in big shame and how their future is put in mess. Finally they undergo social challenges after childbirth. They experience obstetric complications if they do not attend antenatal clinics due to fear that they will be discovered they are pregnant.

According to world Health Organization there are about 20 to 200 percent high risk of adolescent girls dying due to pregnancy compared to adult women (WHO, 1989). The women under 17 years old are more likely to experience premature labor, miscarriage and still birth and their

chances are four times compared to 20 years old women to die from pregnancy related causes (UNICEF, 2000). Most women under 17 are not well informed. They lack basic knowledge of knowing some policies which may help them to solve their own problems and challenges. The community members are ignorant of government policies of re-admission back to school of girls after delivery and this enables girls to pursue their studies and attain their life dreams. It has been discovered that the rate of school dropouts due pregnancy is high and at same time government is promoting increase of literacy. This enables unmarried adolescent mothers to attain their dreams in life, like if one wanted to be a lawyer she will attain the same since they are given chance go back to school and most of the time they excel. The fourth world conference on women which held in Beijing in 1995, UNICEF pledged to more than double resources to promote girls' education in the world (UNICEF, 1996). The community members take pregnancy as end of the girls and their future is doomed and cannot make it in life. There is high stigmatization on unmarried adolescent mothers in their communities since girls have limited mobility which leads to social isolation (population council vol.19 2013). They lack friends as they are termed misfortune in their families and community at large. Sometimes their parents term them as outcasts and they are not treated well as it was before.

The rural unmarried adolescent mothers face a lot of problems compared to their town counterparts. Those from the urban understand life hardcore, even others are from single mother families and they take it as normal. In town there are many activities one can do to get higher income compared to rural areas where there are minimal resources. Life in cities sharpen people and they have to work hard since everything requires one to have money as compared in the village where three quarters of commodities are freely available.

There are projects which have been set aside by the NGOs, community based organizations and civil societies to help and empower unmarried adolescent mothers. These projects help those who did not make to go back to school since their background will not allow them. They enable them to cope with the immediate consequences of early pregnancy and motherhood challenges. They are supposed to accept it as their way of life and move on with life. This will be of great help since most of them come from low social- economic families. The unmarried adolescent mothers are encouraged to join the local youth polytechnics to train some skills like dress

making and other related skills. This non- formal education helps them to get income and support their kids (ACW, 1997). They are encouraged to form some small self help groups which enable them to start small scale business since they are reachable to get loans from the banks and other micro finances. Finally they do well and empower themselves and overcome their problems and their challenges in life are minimized. And the only way in which unmarried adolescent mothers empower themselves is through united actions and strong alliances which enable them to attain their human rights (Bradley, 2011).

Kenya has experienced a marked rise in births among unmarried adolescent girls. In the rural areas they are forced to look for extra coin to rear up their children since their families are poor. In the process they are lured with money in exchange for sex, as a result they become pregnant again. Expecting another child leads to myriads of problems and challenges. Some communities in Kenya recommend premarital fertility among their members and it's a sign of fertility. A good example is in the Turkana people and it is both widespread and culturally acceptable. Over 30 percent of women have at least one child prior to marriage among Turkana people. It's not a social trigger for the onset and continuation of reproduction or a means to legitimate reproduction. Since the Turkana have experienced few effects of modernization, the existence of such a practice suggests that cultural factors must be taken into account before assessing premarital fertility in Africa as a social problem. Also some Islamic countries liked in morocco case of pregnancy before marriage is illegal and unmarried adolescent mothers are charged in court of law even if it's rape case. They term the case as prostitution which is a crime in their due process of law. Also in the Islamic cultures if the girls are found having relationship with any boy they will be stigmatized forever (Bradley, 2011).

1.2 Problem Statement

An estimate of 16 million girls aged between 15 and 19 give birth every year (WHO 2009). In Kenya each year number of female pupils or students drops out of school due to the pregnancies. They become mothers and face a lot of challenges. They are not able to handle responsibility as mothers to raise and provide for their children. In most cases those who are responsible for pregnancy they do not provide for their children. Their parents have no power to follow them up since most of parents are poor, illiterate and ignorant of their basic human rights. Rights of girls

in aspect of education, rights of newborn babies or children rights and others are assumed and they left to suffer. lack of family support and poor education can leave unmarried adolescent mothers socially isolated, dependent on benefits and constrained by the responsibility of caring their babies alone (Evince and Slowley,2010), and this leads them to face a lot of challenges in their daily life.

In the country there are major factors which lead to increase and prolong challenges unmarried adolescent mothers face. Government of Kenya has come up with mechanism to solve these problems. It has set aside policies concerning re-admission of girls to school to peruse their education. Also civil societies, community based organization and NGOs also have tried to empower these young mothers to be self-reliant. On the process they will overcome their challenges and problems.

The problem of teenage motherhood has been by different researchers, who attempted to look at the causes of teenage pregnancy and teenage motherhood (Preston-Whyte, 1991 and Makoko, 2008). In Kenya good number of research have been done concerning adolescent mothers. Most of these studies concentrated in the re-admissions policy leaving out the challenges in unmarried adolescent motherhood. Study by Nyang'au (2001) investigated the determinants of girls' schooling after pre-marital pregnancies. According to Omwancha (2004) he did research which was an analysis of factors affecting girls Re-admission policy after pre-marital pregnancy in public schools. Another study done by Oywecha (2008) investigated effectiveness in implementation of the policy on the Re-entry of secondary school girl mothers to schools. Another study for Omwancha (2012) he researched on the implementation of an educational Re-entry policy for girls after teenage pregnancy. Also a study by Wairimu (2013) investigated the stakeholders' roles in implementing the Readmission policy on adolescent mothers in public secondary school. Finally the latest study by Wanjiku (2015) she researched on the challenges experienced by young-mothers learners upon the Re-entry to formal primary schools.

From the various studies they emphasized on re-admission policy, none has investigated the challenges in unmarried adolescent motherhood in Kisii County, and this kind of study which has taken for granted. Young mothers are not given second chance to go back to school due to

lack of resources, discriminations from community, fellow pupils and teachers. They are discouraged that giving birth is end of education. They remain with one task to raise their children.

Therefore, the main focus of this study is to find out the main challenges that unmarried adolescent mothers face and how these are encountered/dealt with at household, community and policy level. Unmarried adolescent motherhood faces a lot of challenges from social-economic, cultural and political. This should worrying community members and policy makers alike. This study aimed at finding out the challenges unmarried adolescent mothers faced, what are the government and community initiatives to address those challenges and the extent to which those initiatives had succeeded.

1.3 Research Questions

1. What challenges do unmarried adolescent mothers face in Masaba South Sub-County?
2. What have the government and community have done in order to address challenges in unmarried adolescent motherhood?
3. To what extent have governments' and community members' initiatives been successful in minimizing challenges unmarried adolescent mothers face?

1.4 Main Objective

The main objective of this study was to find out the main challenges single adolescent mothers faced and how those challenges were dealt with.

1.4.1 Specific Objectives

1. To explore the challenges unmarried adolescent mothers face in Masaba South Sub-County.
2. To examine what the government and community has done in order to address challenges in unmarried adolescent motherhood.

3. To find out to what extent the governments' and community members' initiatives have been successful in minimizing challenges unmarried adolescent mothers face.

1.5 Justification of the Study

In our modern society, development is paramount. It leads members to have good living standard. It tries as much as possible to eliminate challenges which members face. Development empowers members in education area, economical, social, culture and political. There are strong links between good education and empowerment of women. Empowerment of women leads to national development. It has been said that educating or empowering a woman you educate and empower community. There is a great need to educate unmarried adolescent mothers and empower them. In the process community problems and challenges will be minimized. Government must come up with policies and programs that encourages later marriage and delayed childbirth. There is need to expand economic and educational opportunity for girls and women, so as to reduce adolescent motherhood (Senderewitz 2000).

Literate people understand more about the socio-economic aspects and this enables community to have checks and balances. There is much emphasize needed to give education to unmarried adolescent mothers. This enables them to eliminate illiteracy gap by having more literate girls than illiterate. The same enables members to understand gender equality since those young adolescent fathers are in school. Same must applied to adolescent mothers and be re-admitted back to school. The men who are responsible for pregnancies are supposed to give maximum support to their children.

Then on process this study will help community to understand if their members are aware of campaigns by different organizations on the challenges. These have been in place so as to overcome challenges unmarried adolescent mother faces. Also on how the members will be of help and participate in order to promote development and progress and sustaining the aspect to help the future generations.

1.6 The Scope and Limitations

The study focused on three selected County Assembly Wards in Masaba Sub County, Kisii County in Kenya. The location experiences high rate of unmarried adolescent mothers. The area is densely populated. Mostly unmarried adolescent mothers face a lot of challenges in the area. These challenges hinder development at large and lead to low living standard.

The limitations of the study would be that community members fear to speak out their minds to unmarried adolescent mothers since may be victimized and looked down upon. Also there is lack of knowledge and funds then it's hard to overcome challenges unmarried adolescent mother face. Mostly there are bounds from culture and religion which hinder the common understanding. Fathers chase away their daughters without knowing where to go and they don't care. On process unmarried adolescent mothers are exposed to all sorts of challenges. Also there is poor response from the respondents who are young mothers by fearing or not open to share out there experience. Finally since the research requires a lot of resources the researcher was bounded in three selected County Ward Assembly in Masaba South- Sub-County leaving out two because of financial limits.

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Introduction

This chapter reviews relevant literature on the challenges of unmarried adolescent motherhood. The chapter then reviewed the past authors works regarding challenges to unmarried adolescent motherhood. It starts by giving a general overview of challenges of unmarried adolescent motherhood in world. Then the chapter will look on general overview of problems and challenges of unmarried adolescent motherhood in sub Saharan Africa. Then it looks on the main factors which lead to challenges unmarried adolescent mother face in Kenya and how they affect young mothers at large. The chapter presented the gaps in knowledge as identified in the course of the literature review Finally this chapter gives theoretical framework, definition of concepts and operationalization of variables.

2.2 Global overview of challenges of unmarried adolescent motherhood

There is much concern on problems of livelihood of young mothers and their children. According to Aganyoh (1997) teenage pregnancy all over the world has generally been acknowledged as a problem. Adolescent pregnancy occurs in all the societies in the world but it varies from country to country (Singh et al, 2000).According to WHO (2009) the a half of adolescent births in the world comes from USA, Nigeria, India, Ethiopia, DRC, Brazil and Bangladesh. The community's studies done by UNFPA (2003) shows that 10% to 40% of young unmarried women have experienced unwanted pregnancies. Girls under age of 15 account for 2 million of 7.3millions birth that occur to adolescent girls who are under 18 in every year in developing countries (UNFPA, 2013). According to United Nations (2013) there were 13.1 million births from the girls aged 15 to 19 worldwide and 680,000 occurs in the developing countries. According to the Save the Children (2004) in developing countries complications related to pregnancy and childbirth are leading causes of mortality of girls aged 15-19, accounting for 70000 deaths each year. The same was presented by UNICEF(2009).There is high rate with 10% of female adolescent aged between 15-19 giving birth each year and this leads to early childbearing (UNFPA,2012). Many adolescents' first experience of sexual intercourse are coerced or violated. Specifically girls who live in extreme poverty, among marginalized community and they lack family support are most vulnerable to coercion and violence (UNFPA,

2012). There is a great need to close the gender gap in education at all levels, increasing woman's share of wage employment in the non agriculture sectors, promoting women leadership and improving maternal health are the main indicators that monitor progress in achieving these goals (UNIFEM 2008). The problem of unmarried adolescent motherhood is more in Africa compared to other parts of the world. In Africa there is low income among the people and they are much in cultures. Also African teenage fertility rates are highest in the world (UN 1987). USA has the highest rate of teen pregnancy and births in the western industrialized world (Guttermacher, 1997), and according to Moore et al (1998) 33% of girls by age of 16 have engaged in sexual intercourse. This leads to high unmarried mothers in many countries. According to Farley (1995) in USA teenage pregnancy and child birth are disproportionately common among poor people of all races. In USA according to Pepenoe (1998) most teens pregnancies are considered as curse and not a blessing, these children mostly are involved with many criminal activities since they lack fatherly guide and care. In United States, black American have more challenges as they rear up their children compared to whites. The teenagers who become pregnant are poorly educated. According to Levine et al (2008) worldwide, children from poor household are more likely to be out of school and among these children girls are more likely to be out of school. Most dropouts of schools in order to rear their babies and mostly are from disadvantaged families (Geronimus, 1987). Also there are more challenges in Africa since their mentality is much on it as less privileged compared to other parts of the world. The problem remains the same since there is less effort done in order to look into the immediate problem.

2.3 The situation of sub Saharan Africa

According to world population data sheet (2010) 9 of 10 countries with the youngest population are found in Sub Sahara Africa. It has been discovered that 10% of all the girls who become pregnant in the world before they are aged 16 are from Sub Sahara Africa (WHO, 2008). Chad has the highest percent of very early motherhood (14.2%), followed by Guinea (14.2%), Niger (12.8%) and Mali (12.7%), finally Rwanda has very low levels (0.5%) of girls giving birth before the age of 16 (WHO, 2008). In Sub Saharan Africa more than 1/3 of total population is aged 10 to 24 (UNFPA, 2012). According to Susheela et al (2009) among 14.3 million adolescent girls who give birth in 2008, 1 of every 3 was from sub-Saharan Africa. About the average of 143 births per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19 is in sub Sahara Africa (Boonstra, 2007,

Treffer, 2003) and it's the highest rate of teen pregnancy per year. According to WHO (2008) over 50% of all births under the age of 16 were of girls aged 15 and comprises 60% for those gave birth below age 16. In sub Saharan Africa, adolescent childbearing is most prevalent. According to Islam (2007) more than ¼ of the 40 million pregnancies that occur annually in many regions are accidental. Other literature show that pregnancy-related complications leads to many deaths, according to WHO (2008) it causes the death among women aged 15 and 19 in developing countries. More than 50% of adolescent gave birth at age of 20 and in some area it's over 70% (WHO, 2004). In the 42 main land countries in Sub Sahara Africa from 2005 to 2010, 27.5% of total births among women aged 15 to 19 were unintended (Hubacher et al, 2008). According to WHO (2007) unmarried adolescent mothers have many challenges in sub Saharan Africa and they appear unhealthy, poorly educated, poverty stricken and unemployed with no future. It has been discovered that births to girls under age 15 in sub Saharan Africa are projected to be double in the next 17 years, this making life with a lot of challenges (UNFPA, 2013). In all sub-Saharan Africa countries some adolescent mothers lack social protection. They face a lot of challenges on livelihood, poverty, lack of food, health care and education. There is higher number of school dropouts of unmarried adolescent mothers. These leaves millions of young mothers trapped in poverty cycle with few opportunities (UNESCO, 2012). On challenges of unmarried adolescent motherhood, sub Saharan Africa faces more challenges and they have no permanent solution to these challenges. MGDs has goals in sub Saharan Africa in helping young people to accumulate skills that are relevant to job market and live an independent livelihood (World Bank, 2007). Kenya is among countries in sub Saharan Africa and it's much affected with the same problems.

2.4 The challenges of unmarried adolescent motherhood in Kenya

Kenya is among developing countries with population estimated at 39 million people (KNBS and ICF Macro, 2010). In Kenya population of young people aged 10 to 24 was 33%, 40.5 million and 11% of adolescent who aged 15 to 19 according to UNFPA (2012). According to WHO (2008) Kenya is low middle on unmarried adolescent mothers when comparing it to other Sub Sahara African countries it ranges between 2-4.9%. In Kenya, estimates indicate that 142,000 babies are born to women below 20 years of age annually (CSA, 2008). The study by Nzioka (2001) shows that at age 10-19, adolescent consider themselves mature enough to have sex.

According to Were (2007), here in Kenya early pregnancies are perpetuated by lack of access to educational opportunities, peer pressure, in appropriate recreation and poverty. He continues to say that mostly teenage pregnancies are seen as a deviant. The high level of unwanted pregnancy in Kenya is much related to poor access to, and use of modern contraceptive product (APHRC, 2009). Kenya boasts one of the highest contraceptive preference rates in Africa from 7% in the 1970s to 33% in 1993, 39% in 2003 and 46% in 2008-2009 (KNBS AND ICF, 2010; Magadi, 2003). In Kenya there is much need for social protection among all people. Some cultures in Kenya put pressures which inhibit the use of family planning and those who use them are termed as morally decayed (Aloo-Obunga, 2003). According to Oucho (1987) out of the wedlock birth may pave way for prostitution, which contributes to population growth as well high child morbidity and eventually mortality due to the inexperience young mothers. In Kenya according to Mulongo (2006) young mothers are termed as bad mothers by their counterpart, and illegitimacy is purely a female transgression. The main aim to provide social protection is to ensure for universal development among people both in urban and rural areas. In Kenya unmarried adolescent mothers in rural areas face a lot of challenges compared to those in urban areas. Challenges which these young mothers face are from different aspects and they vary on one background and perception of her community. In Kenya child bearing begins in teenage year for many girls and its increase of unmarried adolescent mothers (KDHS 1989). This increases challenges to these younger mothers as they are taking care of their children.

Due to this reason I fully embarked my research on these challenges. This study finds out all kind of challenges unmarried adolescent mothers face. These challenges are either internal or external depending where unmarried adolescent mother comes from. I grouped the above challenges into three broad categories. These include social economic challenges, community challenges and cultural challenges.

2.4.1 Social economic challenges

The teenage childbearing is much associated to social and economical consequences for the young adolescent mothers Baldwin et al (1980). In our contemporary world, major factor which contribute too many challenges unmarried adolescent face is poverty. Unmarried adolescent mothers face different problems depending on their family background (Luster and Okagaki 2006). Most of them, their parents are from under privileged class, and according to Liku (1987)

early parenthood creates an immediate crisis for teenage parents and their families. In most cases they even lack basic needs and this makes their life difficult in rearing their children. The economic circumstances of the family are highly related to the household structures (Aquilino 1996). Also girls from poor families are exposed to chances of becoming pregnant than those from rich families. Mostly girls from poor background are lured with money in exchange for sex so that to sustain themselves (Ochola and Muganzi 1989). Challenges remain part of their life and they end up to more challenges which are in cycle. Unmarried adolescent mothers' faces long term and short term problems. As they rear their children, they don't have enough resource in case they are from the poor background (Harris, 19970).

Most parents of unmarried adolescent mothers are poor. They are not able to provide for their girls with basic essential needs in rearing their children. This leads them to face many challenges since they lack mere basic needs. A study by (SIFA 1993) shows children of teenage mothers face a lot of health problems and high mortality rate risks compared to those of adult mothers. Girls are not able to continue with their studies due to early childbearing, according to Sawhill (2000) early childbearing prevents young parents from attaining the higher level of education that are necessary to compete in today's economy. Sometime their parents are poor, they assume and they want girls to take care of their babies as no one want to hold the responsibility. In most cases teenage mothers struggles economically and their children are likely to repeat that cycle of poverty (save the children, 2004) .If they were supported by their relatives, in time of pregnancy they see that the girl is not serious with her studies and they stop supporting them. Also the unmarried adolescent mother suffers unplanned, financially unsupported and socially unsanctioned pregnancies (Shusheel, 1998). Teen mothers lies outside, what is considered normal 'parenthood' (Trand, 1995). In most case they depend on their parents and their effort to support their children McDermott et al, 2005).

The girls from poor background are not able to pursue their education after delivery. This hinders them from getting well paying jobs since they are unskilled. Most are forced to do menial jobs in order to rear their child. Rearing children its hard task since it requires a lot of expenses. Teenage mothers will be depressed and face a lot of challenges in their life at present and in future (Tonelli, 2004). According to Luster and Okagaki (2006), general income of

unmarried adolescent mothers who did not continue with their studies is lower compared to those who finished their studies. And this was due to economical power of their parents since most are from poor background. They are victims of social circumstances, male sex advances and inability to decline to their sex urges.

Teenage motherhood and parenting at large is considered to produce cycle of intergeneration poverty. As their children growing up, sometimes their parents are not able to provide them with basic needs. They do not have enough resources to rear their children, according to Boonstra (2002) most of adolescent mothers they remain unmarried when their children are born, this leads to lack of social support, the spouse is typically absent for adolescent mothers hence they are faced with a lot of challenges. According to Leadbeater and Way (2001) these problems leads to school dropout, promiscuity even drug abuse and other related problems. Much great proportion of single parents, parents' families have come from below poverty level (Bumpass 1994).

2.4.2 Community level challenges

Community plays an important role in social protection and social support. Unmarried adolescent mothers face a lot of challenges because community does not provide them with social protection and social support to them. Good example is when man who is responsible for pregnancy his there and nothing was done to him. Human rights of children are violated. Community leaders are supposed to follow the matters and make sure those men are held responsible. In some instance fathers of children are well of and they are supposed to provide for their children. Mostly everything is left to mothers hence they are faced with all kinds of problems. Community members don't understand government policies which they are supposed to be followed in order help out these young mothers like returning back to school. In schools these unmarried adolescent mothers are miss-judged. According to Wanda (2006) he says that within schools unmarried mothers are judged as immoral and assumed to be social threats that can potentially set of an epidemic of immoral and promiscuous behavior within other students. They are supposed to be empowered in order to overcome their challenges and lead a good life.

Also community is supposed to change their mentality towards those unmarried adolescent mothers. It is supposed to give them courage and moral support. In most case they lack experience and are immature, emotionally unstable and this mostly leads to poor maternal and child health care (Senderewitz,Paxman 1985) . They are exposed to a lot of challenges, since they are young and left alone they are in big trouble. According to SIFA (1993) age of unmarried adolescent mothers can have indirect cause of poor child rearing behavior, hence community is supposed to be full involved.

2.4.3 Cultural challenges

Most of challenges in unmarried adolescent motherhood are due to cultural practices of communities as they uphold their customs and values. Social cultural values and practices of a given community have great bearing on challenges unmarried adolescent mother face. In rural communities values and practices have lead to many challenges they face. When girls become pregnant blame is taken to their mothers, who are blamed for teaching their daughters bad norms and practices.

According to Ocholla and Muganzi (1989), fathers they blame their mothers and chase the girls away when they are pregnant or when they have given birth. When girls are chased away, they face a lot of challenges on the process since in most cases they have nowhere to go. Also girls leave their kids to their mothers and go to towns in order to look jobs. In process they found themselves getting more kids and the problem is increased. They also say that illegitimate children have a lot of problems even in land sharing. And they are chased away from their mothers land as young as possible hence they are involved with a lot of problems.

According to most of cultures pre-marital pregnancies is taken as an evil thing. Girls are punished heavily and boys or men who are responsible are left out as if they have done nothing. The act is termed as a stigma, disgrace to parents and in most situations it leads to single motherhood. Most men do not want to marry women with kids (ocholla, Muganzi 1989). Their children will live the life of single parents as their mothers in most cases they would not get married and faces a lot of challenges in livelihood (Hotz et al 1997).

Parents don't want to face a lot of shame; they force their daughters to get married to any man even if the girl does not love the man. Also child marriage has a lot of challenges to young mothers who even lacks important information on health matters. Girls are denied their human rights. They lack ability to negotiate use of condom or abstain from sex (Shelly and Clerk, 2004). This leads to having many children as they are not able to plan their birth. This put the young girls in a lot of challenges; in most cases these men are not worthy to be husbands. They are drunkard and being involved in bad activities. Their parents force them into marriage so as to settle down. Girls are unwanted in their homes and are supposed to be with their husbands. Later this leads to have high rates of divorce, they are not happy in their marriage compared those who married to men of their choice (Furstenberg, Brooks-Gunn, Morgan 1987).

According to Leadbeater and Way (2001), most domestic violence among adolescent mothers when they got married is very high. Most of them got married to careless men who were forced to marry. These men mistreat them and stick there since their parents they don't want them home. Sometimes they are forced to run away and on process they suffer a lot with their children. Most of traditional social and cultures expectations that girl's role as wives and mothers, this limits many opportunities for them to continue with their studies (Cynthia and Juliet, 2009).

In most cases after birth, unmarried adolescent mothers are not given chances to go back to school in order to complete their studies. Most cultures in Kenya taking girl child to school is like doing them favor. The government of Kenya has implemented affirmative action measures on girls who give birth to re-admitted and complete their education (ROK, 2005). Also parents are supposed to give their girls land and settled down instead chasing them away from their homes. They insist it's against their culture, but constitution of Kenya gives a girl child a right to inherit properties of their parents' even guardians.

2.5 The Study Theoretical Framework

A theoretical framework is fundamental in any study. It shows clearly which theory is being investigated and which hypotheses are being tested. Also it plays a role of promoting understanding of main factors that may influence or are related with the identified problem. In

this study I used social stratification and socialization theory. These theories explain phenomenon on challenges of unmarried adolescent mothers face in their communities.

2.5.1 Social stratification theory

Social stratification theory explains hierarchical system of society on basis of resources which leads to inequality in society. This theory explains why there is ranking of people on wealthy, power and prestige in a society. Also stratification exists in all societies and is based in wealth, gender and race.

Karl Marx is attributed to social stratification theory. According to him society is polarized into two groups: bourgeoisie and proletariat. For Marx the bourgeoisie owns means of production and proletariat provide labor. This leads to many conflicts in economic, social and political aspects in society. For Marx stratification benefits those on top at expense of those in bottom. Also to him it's a case of oppression and exploitation. Stratification divides people and elites maintain for their own benefit and made others to suffer more and more.

Max Weber also contributed to social stratification theory. According to Matras (1975), Weber also considered property ownership and non-property ownership and their relations as backbone of social inequality. For Weber those who have properties determine one his/her chances in life and nature of life they live. According to Weber there are three forms of social inequality in society. These forms originated from individuals class or their economic position in society. To him statuses are; prestige, honor and fame of one in society. Power is someone's ability to get others to his/her way in all means. He shows that we can have power and prestige without strong economic background. Weber elaborated much on social prestige and power of individuals in society.

Wright Mill emphasizes on inequality of power in society derives from complete absence of countervailing powers against corporate leaders of power elite. He uses Marx ideas and he improves them. Unlike Weber he conquered with Marx on dominant wealthy and power class. Those who were in power were same people who own means of production. They control economic and political spheres in society. Like Weber who emphasizes on social prestige and

power aspects, Mill also says that power elite have a lot of privileges and are easily recognized in society because of their positions. According to Mill, elite have powers by virtue in political, economical and military.

This theory applies very well in this study. This theory shows how there is different social life of people depending on their resources. The rich people in society live good life compared to poor. All challenges unmarried adolescent mothers face are mostly determined by one is social-economical background. They have different attitudes, feelings, beliefs and behavior in society are living in. The end product is that members of community develop different understanding on social phenomenon. There is different interpretation, stands and knowing.

This theory shows us how challenges of unmarried adolescents mothers face emanate from different factors. The theory shows us how social inequalities are in people and given different chances in life. This leads to big gaps among the community members. Unmarried adolescent mothers from well of socio economic class are able to take care of their new born children. Their kids will be well taken care of with their parents who even afford to pay baby sitter for them. Those from poor families face a lot of problems; in most cases they even lack basic needs. Those from higher socio economic class are able to enroll back to school and complete their studies. But those from poor background are forced to drop out of school completely. In most cases are chased away from their homes. They are forced to marry men who their parents chose and problems become worse.

Also in most cases after birth girls from lower socio economic class are lured with money. They end up being pregnant of another time and are in more problems.

Most men they don't joke with girls from higher socio economic class. They know in case of any problems are in trouble. They lure those from lower socio economic and dump them. According to many cultures poor people are much attached to their beliefs and don't accept change. They don't give their girls land and other properties. Those from poor families are forced to struggle with life in order to make ends meet; hence they face a lot of challenges.

2.5.2 Socialization Theory

Socialization theory explains how different socializations can lead to different people in a society. Socialization is process by which an individual selectively acquire necessary and desirable skills, knowledge, attitudes and values. These enable them to fit in norms and sanction of socio culture of given community. According to Giddens (2001) on socialization theory; socialization enables one to learn culture of society and become what society teaches to live. There are many agents who are responsible for aspect of socializations. Socializations start during childhood and its life-long process with many goals. Their main goals are: teaching impulse control, developing conscience and preparing people to perform specific social roles in community. According to Maccoby (1990), different parenting qualities are uniquely important for both boys and girls development.

This theory applies well in my study. All the members of society they are taught on how to live and relate in their society. Socializations are task of Parents, whole family members and community at large. They help their children both in infancy, childhood and puberty stage to learn attitudes, values and actions of community. All these, every individual is required to learn them according to their culture norms and values. This makes children to have brood understating about their norms and way of life. Children are strictly required to follow norms and values of their culture. Failure to do so, it leads to server consequences. Socializations occur here depends on children's background. In worldwide girls are more likely to become pregnant under circumstances of social expression, poverty, marginalized and gender inequality (UNFPA, 2013).

The one's school plays a big role since it serve as latent function in society. As they teach children to follow instruction, set of rules and to be responsible individuals. Teachers are role model to pupils and students. Also peer influence, where people of similar age, social status and who share same interest and learn new ideas from each other. Here adolescents develop identity and in most cases intend to be separated from their parents and community. They term them as civilized and engage in many activities which are even against norms and values of their communities.

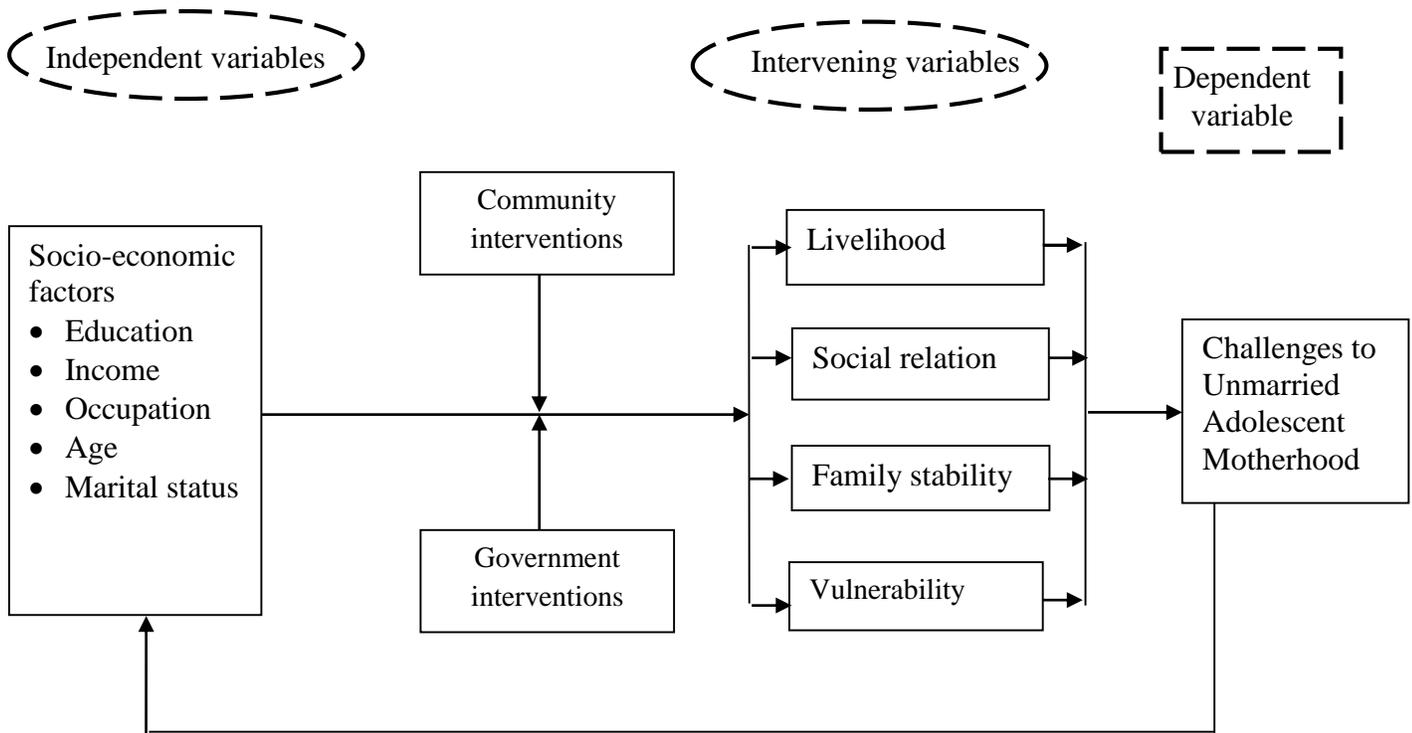
Socialization in most cultures favors one sex. Girls are subjected to get married and move away from their homes. In case of pregnancy, only girls suffer consequences as are termed as deviants from their norms and values. In most cases boys or men who are responsible just take life as normal in community as if nothing has happened.

In matters of education boys are given first priority than girls. After birth are married out according to many cultures. They believe that role of women is to take care of children. Also girls are denied their human rights like inheriting their parents' properties. It is against many cultures and is very much followed up to now in communities. This kind of socialization will reflect and leads to many challenges unmarried adolescent mothers are facing in our communities.

2.6 Conceptual Framework

Conceptual framework shows relationship between independent, intermediary and dependent variables. Independent variables are those variables influences dependent variables and are responsible for variation observed in the dependent variables. The dependent variables influence greatly this study in order to understand real challenges of unmarried adolescent motherhood.

Figure 2.1: Conceptual Framework



The higher education level of parents enables them to have good occupations since they are well educated. The professionals are always well paid hence they have good income. This enables them to have good livelihood. Livelihood outcomes are due to higher income, increased well-being, reduce vulnerability and improved food security (Ontita, 2006). There are good social relation and family stability among themselves. They understand life well and have control of resources. Individuals in society have social, identity as a teacher, peasant, farmer or businessman. Hence in the case of unmarried adolescent mothers from these families are being helped by their parents to achieve their dreams in life and sometimes they do not face any challenges. And the opposite is true.

Those with well-paying jobs due to their level of education they have Social capital. Social capital relates to community and wider social claims on which actors can draw by virtue of their belonging to the social groups in society (Ibid). Good education, income and occupation leads to Social dynamics which creates 'insiders' and 'outsiders' and sometimes results to social

exclusion. Those unmarried adolescent mothers from these families enjoy life to brim but those from the opposite families they suffer a lot with all kind of challenges.

The main Livelihood pursuit is to increased income, food security, sustainable resources utilization and well being. Resources are equally defined narrowly in terms of assets or capital. In most cases those with higher level of education, good occupations good income, it is easy to attain this life style. In the process there is good livelihood, social relation, family stability and reduced vulnerability. For unmarried adolescent mothers from these families they lead good life and are easy to rear their children vice versa.

On the other hand single and old parents they lack good livelihood since people's ability to general livelihood depends on their access to productive resources and their ability to control and use resources effectively. Mostly they lack some natural resources like land. In the process the unmarried adolescent mothers from these family suffers a lot by facing a lot of challenges. Resources are scarce and that demand for them is always higher than their supply. Only those with good education and well paying jobs are fit in the states of affairs. There is competition for resources all over the world and Resources enable people to meet their basic needs as matter of right (Ontita, 2006).Unmarried adolescent mothers from rich families they don't face much challenges compared to those from poor families since they have different resources.

2.7 Definition of Concepts and Operationalization of Variables

2.7.1 Education

In this study education means the level of education in which unmarried adolescent mothers become pregnant, also the level of education of their parents, the higher the level of education the minimal challenges.

2.7.2Income

In this particular study income means the total gross earning of the parents, it is both monetary, assets and other resources of the family. The higher the monthly income the well sustained family.

2.7.3 Occupation

In this study occupation refers to the activities people are engaged in the society which generate income, it involves professional and unprofessional, skilled and unskilled.

2.7.4 Age

The age in the study refers the exact age unmarried adolescent mothers they gave birth, those who are older they experience few challenges and younger ones they have a lot of challenges.

2.7.5 Marital Status

In the family structure marital status means being single, married, divorced and widowed. We have single families which controlled by mothers, married where there are both parents. Also in divorce and widowed there is one parent, either man or woman. The family of both parents its easy compared of single parents which faces a lot of challenges.

2.7.6 Livelihood

In this study livelihood refers the capability in which the family income sustains its people by providing them with the basic needs and they do not suffer due to lacking the same. The better livelihood is determined by the family resources and income.

2.7.7 Social relation

The social relation refers the peaceful and harmonious health relations between the family members. Following family orders and norms leads to unity and happiness hence good social relation in the family and going against the orders and norms leads to many distractions even forcing other family members to go or chased away.

2.7.8 Family stability

The family stability in this study refers to the degree in which the family members are Comfortable with life in social, economical and political. They free having the enough aspects hence living good life without any hindrances.

2.7.9 Vulnerability

In this study the vulnerability refers to the chances in which unmarried adolescent mothers are under risks, lack of good livelihood and they are not able to sustain themselves or to come out of the same problem

CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter covers all research methodology and they include; research design, target population, sample size and sample procedure, unit of analysis and unit of observation, research instruments, instrument validity, instrument reliability, data collection procedures and data analysis techniques. According to Cooper and Schindler (2003) research methodology invites measurement that must be both reliable and valid.

3.2 Research Design

A research design is a plan, outline or a scheme that is used to generate answers to research problems (Orodho, 2003). This study adopted descriptive survey design. Descriptive survey design is direct analysis and enabled the researcher to get a broader scope of results in term of sample size. Descriptive survey can be used when collecting information about people's opinions, habits, attitudes or any of the variety of education and or social issues. The design allows the researcher to analyze data without changing the environment. Descriptive survey design require questions that are most applicable, as well as with getting responses to survey. Also design provides answer to questions of who, what, when, where and how associated with a particular research problem. This design enabled the researcher to describe responses given and analysis in order to learn about similarities and relationships among variables. Also descriptive survey design enabled the researcher to gather information, summarize, present and interpret for the purpose of clarification (Orodho, 2003). This study was concerned with the challenges in unmarried adolescent motherhood and to what extent the community and government have tried to reduce these challenges.

3.3 Study Site Description

This study was conducted in Masaba South which is one of Sub-County in Kisii County. Masaba South Sub-County is divided into five County Assembly Wards; Gesusu, Ibacho, Masimba, Nyamasibi, and Kiamokama. The Sub County comprises of 32 sub location. According to National Census (2009), Masaba South had population of 122,087 and its cover area of 161.80 Sq Km. the study covered three county assembly wards and they include;

Masimba, Gesusu and Kiamokama. Masimba cover 35.3 Sq. Km with 26,013 people (Census 2009). Masimba has 8 Sub Locations; Metembe, Riamichoki, Engorwa, Riuri, Ibanchore, Gekonge, Ekerema and Suguta. Gesusu covers 34.8 Sq. Km with 25,861 people (Census 2009). Gesusu has 9 Sub Locations; Chibwobi, Getacho, Nyamesocho, Geteri, Ikenye, Masaba, Chironge, Getare, Kegogi. Kiamoka covers 25.9 Sq. Km (Census 2009). Kiamoka has 5 Sub Location; Mogweko, Mobamba, Nyankononi, Ibacho, Emeroka. The single household owns averagely less than 2 acres of land. The area has higher poverty level where 51 % of its people are living below poverty level (Census 2009). The area exhibit the equatorial climate with high altitude and it's more favorable for farming. This equatorial climate enables the area to experience rain throughout the year. Has an average annual rainfall of 1500mm with long rains between march and June while short rains are received from September to November. The maximum temperatures in area ranges between 21°C-30°C while minimum ranges between 15°C-20°C.

The high and reliable rainfall and moderate temperatures is suitable for growing all kind of crops in the area. Over 77% of land in area is fertile and often wet throughout the year. People in the area are mixed farmers; they grow crops and rear domestic animals. They grow cash crop like tea, coffee, pyrethrum and sugarcane. Tea is the main cash crop in the area, at least 91% of household plants tea. Also they grow Food crops like maize, bean, potatoes, millet and sorghum. Of late in the area people have embarked in growing fruits like banana and avocado which are in demand and they gave them good income. Also they rear different kind of animals for domestic use and economical like cow, goats, sheep and poultry, in some sub locations they have donkeys for transportation.

The main socio economical activities in area are farming and business. There are both small and large scale farming and business in the area. There are some professionals in the area, skilled and unskilled activities. Most activists take place in their centers but others are being involved with business in Keroka and Kisii town.

People from the area they share main town of Keroka and Kisii for their daily life activities. There are good numbers of primary and secondary schools, both public and private. Also there

are good health facilities compared to other rural Kenya. The choice of area of study is meant to be representative Kisii County in study of challenges in unmarried adolescent motherhood. Masaba South District is basically a rural area. There are other rural areas in Kisii County that are experiencing the same problem. I chose Masaba South District because nobody knows me hence obtain information without any biasness. Also there is strong evidence of high challenges in unmarried adolescent motherhood and no one is ready to talk about it. Few studies have been done in the rural areas. This study was conducted among unmarried adolescent mothers, adolescents', teachers, and elite and administrative and parents. In this selected area of study which I sampled them purposefully. For this particular research, community members were involved.

3.4 Target Population

The target population is population to which research wants to generalize results of a study and should be defined according to aim and purpose of the study (Mugenda and Mugenda, 2003). According to National Census (2009), Masaba South had population of 122,087. In this study the target population comprises of unmarried adolescent mothers in the area.

3.5 Sampling Size and Sampling Procedures

Sample is a set of respondents selected from a large population for the purpose of study (Kombo and Tromp, 2006). According to Best and Khan (2004), a sample is a small proportion of population selected for observation and analysis. For Orodho (2002), any statements made about the sample should also be true of the population, but it is however be agreed that large the sample smaller the sample error.

The researcher used proportionate sampling method to get sample size of respondents from three sampled County Assembly Wards. The desirable sample size of respondents by the researcher was 250 respondents. The study area was in three wards Assembly; which are Masimba, Gesusu and Kiamokama. There are 72,837 people in selected study area in Masaba South Sub-County which comprises 59.67% of entire population of Masaba South Sub-County as 2009 census. The number of respondents per County Ward Assembly was calculated as the percentage (%) of the total on people in each county ward assembly against the study's sample (250). The total number of people in the study area was 72,837 and they comprise of Masimba 26,013, Kiamokama

20,963 and Gesusu 25,681. The researcher drew 89 respondents from Masimba, 89 respondents from Gesusu and the remaining 72 respondents from Kiamokama.

$$\text{Masimba} = \frac{26013}{72837} \times 250 = 89$$

$$\text{Gesusu} = \frac{25681}{72837} \times 250 = 89$$

$$\text{Kiamokama} = \frac{20963}{72837} \times 250 = 72$$

The proportional percentage of respondents each from the 3 county of the required sample for study is shown on table 3.1 below.

Table 3.1: Distribution of the Respondents by County Assembly Ward

No	Name of county assembly ward	Total population	Selected sample
1.	Masimba	26,013	89
2.	Gesusu	25,681	89
3.	Kiamokama	20,963	72
Total		72837	250

After getting the number of respondents required, the researcher used Stratified random sampling to select 250 respondents from three selected County Assembly Wards. Stratified random sampling ensures all categories are included in the study. Stratified random sampling involves dividing your population into homogeneous sub groups in the study area and took a random sample in each group. First proportion stratified sampling was used to distribute the sample of 250 in the three selected areas. This ensured that the sample was proportionately and adequately distributed among the three selected areas. Each area (stratum) was allocated a portion of sample by dividing the total number of people in the area by total number of the total population in the three selected areas and then multiplying by the sample size (250). Therefore, to

underscore on homogeneity of the selected sample, stratified random sampling was handy in ensuring that samples were drawn from each stratum encompassed in the target population.

3.6 Unit of Observation and Unit of Analysis

In this study the unity of observation were unmarried adolescent mothers in Masaba South Sub-County. The unit of analysis in this study was the challenges in unmarried adolescent motherhood in Masaba South Sub-County.

3.7 Research Methods

The following research methods were used by the researcher to collect data in this study;

3.7.1 Survey Method

Survey method encompasses any activity that collects information in an organized and methodical manner about characteristics of interest from units of population using well defined concepts, methods and procedures. Survey involves interviewing the respondents in order to gather required information in any study. Survey enables researcher to collect data on phenomena that cannot be directly observed. Also it allows a researcher to sample desirable size from population. And use the appropriate tools to gather information from the population. Researcher used the stated tools in section (3.8.1). The method allowed getting the data which cannot be directly observed like feelings, facts, opinions, attitudes, beliefs and characters. This data enables the researcher to analysis and understand real problem and challenges in unmarried adolescent motherhood.

3.7.2 Key Informant Interviews

key informant interviews was conducted to a specific key resourceful individuals in the community who were having valuable insight and resourceful specialized knowledge on regarding the topic of study. For this study the researcher was concerned on challenges in unmarried adolescent motherhood. They fill the information gaps that a research may have with regards where he/she is supposed to be in community to observe. They give a particular perspective or communicate specific challenges the particular group in community are facing. Interview was conducted by the researcher. a set of questions (interview guide) was used to get information from the key Informants on the demographic information, conceptualization of

challenges in unmarried adolescent motherhood in Masaba South Sub-County. In this study Key Informants included; parents, religious leaders, principal/head teachers, administrative leaders, elite of the community and professionals of the community. The researcher used them in the initial assessments of issues and beginning of relationship building. They were of essence when the researcher wanted information they understand more and their genesis than others do in the study area. The key informants were source of firsthand knowledge in given study community, they provide honest information, sensitive and confidentiality issues which cannot be discussed in focus group discussion.

3.7.3 Focus Group Discussions

Focused group discussions were used to get information on the topic of study. The focus group discussion is a group of individuals from similar background discussing the topic of common interest. It requires genuine interest of people and being sensitive in matter of culture, men and women in community. They were brought together by the researcher who helped the group to participate in lively and natural discussion amongst on the conceptualization of challenges in unmarried adolescent motherhood in Masaba South Sub-County. Guiding questions were used to collect data from parents, youths and unmarried adolescent mothers. The researcher used focus group discussions to explore meanings of survey findings that cannot be explained by use of statistics. It enabled the researcher to rate opinions of people on the study topic and the researcher collected a wide variety of information.

3.8 Instruments of Research

The researcher used the questionnaires, key informants interview guide and focus group discussions guiding questions. According to Orodho (2004), a questionnaires have the ability to collect a large amount of information in a reasonably space of time. Also the interview guide and guiding questions enables one to collect data required to meet the specific objective of the study (Mugenda and Mugenda, 1999).The questionnaires gives the respondents freedom to express their views or opinions and also suggestions. According to Babbie (1989), the questionnaires are the most appropriate when addressing sensitive issue particularly on survey that deals with anonymity to avoid reluctance or deviation from the respondents. The interview

guide and guiding questions must be flexible and adoptable as it involves direct interaction between individuals (Memillan and Schumacher, 2001).

3.8.1 Questionnaires

Questionnaire is a simply tool or a research instrument consisting of a series of questions and other prompt for purpose of gathering information from respondents. The questionnaires measures separate variables and with questions that are aggregated into index or scale. Questionnaires are typically made up of closed end questions with specific response categories. The researcher administered questionnaires on unmarried adolescent mothers. The researcher used questionnaires in mode of face to face and pencil and paper, he used Questionnaires in collecting data from the desirable sample. Where face to face was applied the researcher asked the respondents questions, after they have answered he wrote answers down in order to analysis them in details to obtain information intended. Questionnaires enabled the researcher to gather information from a large sample in selected areas. Questionnaires have standardized answers that make it easy to compile answers. Questionnaires were sharply limited by the fact that respondents must be able to read questions and respond to them for those who can't read were assisted by the researcher to understand the questions. The closed end questions helped the researcher not to elaborate to respondents on questions but to answer they way questions were.

3.8.2 Key Informants Interview Guide

Key informants interview guide is a research tool and was administered on key informants. They are series of questions on key informants in order to gather information. It enables them to fill the information gaps that a research may have with regards where he/she is supposed to be in community to observe. It's in form of confidential to key informants. The interview guides gives a particular perspective or communicate specific challenges the particular group in community are facing. The guides helped the researcher to gather neutral information in challenges in unmarried adolescent motherhood. Researcher used them in the initial assessments of issues and beginning of relationship building. The researcher used them for parents, church leaders, and administration leaders, elite in communities and principals/head teachers.

3.8.3 Focus Group Discussions Guide

The focus group discussions guide is a series of questions that facilitates discussion for focus group discussion. The guide directs a moderator on how to ask specific question and what will follow. It enables them to participate in lively and natural discussion amongst them. The guide provides familiarity on the topic of discussion and ability to speak. The researcher used the focus group discussions guide on unmarried adolescent mothers, parents of unmarried adolescent mothers and youths. The researcher used focus group discussion guide to explore meanings of survey findings that cannot be explained by use of statistics. It enabled the researcher to rate the opinions of people on the study topic and to collect a wide variety of information. Focus group discussion guide has open end questions. This allowed participants to express their thoughts and feelings and discuss their views from different angles. Also it gives a room for questions and more clarifications of issues. Finally it's quick in getting information and cheap to conduct.

3.9 Instrument Validity

According to Orodho (2004), validity is degree to which results obtained from analysis of data actually present phenomenon under investigation. Research instrument will be validated through application of content validity procedures. The researcher tested both the face and content validity of the questionnaires. The researcher did a pilot study in the three selected study area to identify items that could be misunderstood and modifies them in order to increase the face validity. Also the researcher relied on expert's opinions, literature searches and pre-testing of open ended questions to establish content validity. The objective of piloting was to eliminate any ambiguous items, establish the feasibility of the study.

3.10 Reliability of Instrument

Mugenda and Mugenda (2010) define reliability as a measure of degree to which a research instrument yield consistent results or data after repeated. Reliability is ensured by avoiding ambiguous instruction to the subject and gave ample break interval to rest. In the study the researcher used test-retest method of reliability, the test-retest techniques for questionnaire improves reliability of instrument. The researcher administered instruments for first time then after two weeks he administered the same instruments again among the same respondents.

3.11 Data Collection Procedures

The researcher obtained a letter of introduction from the Department of Sociology University of Nairobi. The researcher wrote the covering letter requesting the local leaders to allow him to do the study in their area, and then pay courtesy visit to the county commissioner of Kisii County to seek permission to undertake the study in the area and explain his intention to carry out the research.

The researcher administered the questionnaires and ensured that the respondents understood what was required from them. The researcher ensured that the respondent's confidentiality when dealing with their responses and he provided them envelopes to put their completed questionnaires and he personally collected the responses for data analysis. According to Best and Kahn (1990), the person administering the instrument has an opportunity to establish a rapport, explain the purpose of the study and the meaning of items that may be not clear.

3.12 Data Analysis Techniques

Analysis refers to examining the coded data critically and making references (Kombo and Tromp 2009). Analysis it's the process of summarizing the collected data and putting it together so that the researcher can meaningfully organize, categorize and synthesize from the data collecting tools. According to Bryman and Crammer, (2007) data analysis always seeks to fulfill research objective and provides answers to research questions. In the study the researcher collected data mostly basing on the purpose and objectives of the study or research.

The quantitative data from questionnaires was analyzed by the researcher using the statistical package for the social sciences (SPSS) soft ware. In coding the researcher used descriptive statistic which involves frequencies and percentages. Then the researcher used tables, pie charts or even bar graphs to present data. The qualitative data, the researcher organized the data in themes and patterns, categorized through content analysis to capture in providing rich descriptions in response to the research questions.

CHAPTER FOUR: DATA ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION OF FINDINGS

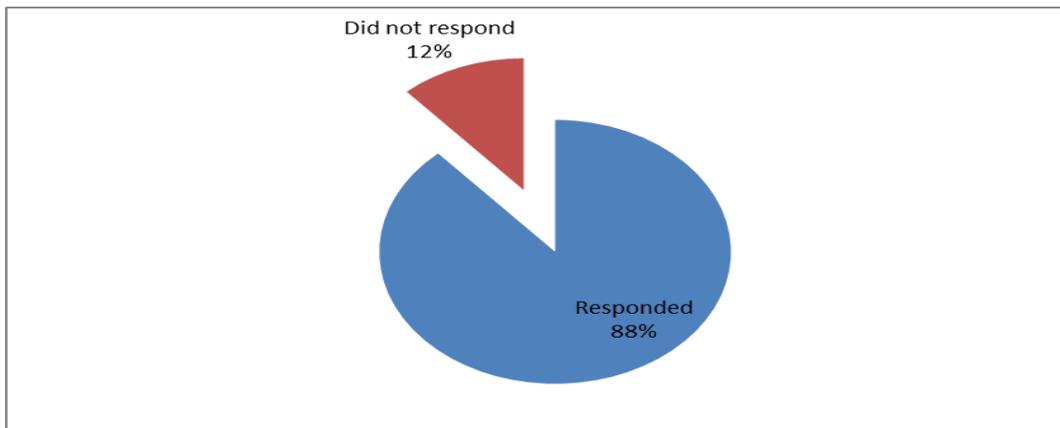
4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents data that was collected from the field and analyzed according to the research instrument. The chapter was organized in seven sections namely the response rate, background information, reason for termination studies, challenges of to unmarried adolescent motherhood, community action and government interventions/policies to counter challenges to unmarried adolescent mother and their successes.

4.2 Response Rate

The study targeted a population of 72,837 people from Masimba, Gesusu and Kiamokama. It sampled 250 people from the study area, of which 89 were from Masimba, 89 from Gesusu and 72 from Kiamokama. From the sample size, 221 responded by returning duly filled in questionnaires making a response rate of 88.4% as shown in Figure 4.1 below.

Figure 4.1 Response Rate



Source: Research (2014)

The response rate was sufficient for data analysis and therefore the researcher proceeded and analyzed data. The findings are presented in the following sections.

4.3 Demographic Characteristics

In order to understand the demographics of the respondents, the study requested information about respondents' sex, age, number of siblings, birth order, occupation, level of education, reason of terminating studies, pregnancy and number of children.

4.3.1 Respondents' Sex

The study requested the respondents to indicate their sex. From the findings, all the respondents (100%) were female owing to the fact that the study was concerned with unmarried adolescent motherhood. This finding was also as a result that the study targeted female respondents who provided information on the challenges they face as unmarried adolescent mothers.

4.3.2 Respondents' Age

Respondents were requested to indicate their age and the researcher grouped their ages for analysis purposes. Findings are presented in Table 4.1

Table 4.1 Adolescent Mothers Age

Age of Respondents	Frequency	Percent
11-13	5	2.3
14-16	118	53.4
17-19	98	44.3
Total	221	100

Source: Research (2014)

From the findings, more than half of the respondents (53.4%) were 14– 16 years old. Out of the respondents, 44.3% were 17 – 19 years old while 2.3% were 11 – 13 years old. All age groups were considered in the study since the questionnaire was open on respondents' age. The findings indicate that from age 14 to 16, adolescent girls are more vulnerable to pregnancy hence becoming adolescent mothers at that age in Masaba South Sub-County.

A Key Informant said (high school teacher):

“most of the time when these young girls in day school when they join form one they experience different life style where they are influenced by others to have boyfriends who sometimes provide

them with some cash in exchange for sex, this leads to have more case of them being pregnant compared to those in form three and form four since they have adopted fully to high school life and they know how to trick these boys”

The transition from primary to secondary school is a critical moment for girls regardless of their age because they are exposed to boy advances for sex. So intervention should be targeted at such transitional times rather than age groups.

Data from the FGD indicated that for those girls who their parents were not able to take them to high school, after first term at home doing nothing they found themselves engaging sex around with different men by age of 16 already they have a children as younger mothers.

4.3.3 Number of Siblings

Respondents were asked to state the number of siblings they have and specify the number of boys and girls. Table 4.2 presents the findings.

Table 4.2: Number of Siblings

Number of Siblings	Brother	Sister
Less than 2	29	48
3 - 5 siblings	37	51
6 - 8 Siblings	12	26
More than 8 Siblings	0	18
Total	78	143
Percentage	35.3	64.7

Source: Research (2014)

Majority of the respondents indicated that there were more sisters in their family than brothers having a total of 64.7% against 35.3% of brothers. The findings show that in Masaba South Sub-County, most families have more girls than boys.

This implies then that there will be their problem of unmarried adolescent mothers since girl are many in each household since at least each household will be affected.

4.3.4 Level of Education

Respondents were requested to state their level of education. Table 4.3 presents the findings of the study.

Table 4.3: Level of Education

Education Level of Respondents	Frequency	Percent
Standard 1-4	5	2.4
Standard 5-8	25	11.9
Form 1-2	101	48.1
Form 3-4	79	37.6
Total	210	100

Source: Research (2014)

From the findings, 48.1% of the respondents indicated that they had reached form 1 – 2, 37.6% had reached form3-4, and 11.9% had reached Standard 5-8 while 2.4% had reached Standard 1-4. The findings indicate that majority of adolescent mothers in Masaba South Sub-County had reached secondary level.

From the data above indicates that more than half of the respondent didn't reach to form four levels since after birth most parents or guardians they claim taking these unmarried adolescent mothers back to school is wasting of money and their resources.

Data from FGD especially men indicated that Many of parents believes that once a girl has tasted honey (euphemism for sex) she will always want more of it even she going to have more partners, so they should not waste their resources taking them back to school, instead they should look means and ways to take care their babies as they prepare their mind to get married since

they are mothers and this removes shame from the family. Also others gives these young mothers are given chances to finish their studies.

Adolescent Mothers said:

“most of us we feared returning to school since we run away when we discovered we were pregnant, we didn’t want to go back since we know our fellow students will laugh at us. we requested our parents to take us to another school but they were not of the idea; we decided to leave our studies there and to look after our babies.”

Other girls because of shame they drop out of school since fellow students/pupils laugh at them and they feel odd one out. When request their parents to take them to another school they don’t take them serious since already they are pregnant and they prefer her to remain at home to nurse her pregnancy.

4.3.4 Occupation

Respondents were asked to state their occupation. Table 4.4 presents the findings.

Table 4.4: Occupation of Respondents

Occupation of Respondents	Frequency	Percent
Employed	14	6
Schooling	172	79
Looking after your baby	23	10
Other(specify)	12	5
Total	221	100

Source: Research (2014)

From the findings, 79% are schooling, 10% looking after their babies, 6% are employed and 5% are in vocational trainings.

The main reason why there are a big number of young mother in school is due to the government polices on re-admission back to school after birth. Also in most schools when teachers discover that there are pregnant students they counsel them and advice them to accept the situation and carry on with their studies. And this enables them to continue with their studies after have given birth. Those who missed opportunity to go back to school due to lack of school fees or one to take care of the baby, they end up joining vocational training like dress making, in beauty training and after they are well equipped with the skills are employed. Also others are forced to look after their babies since there is no one to help them since their mothers have to work hard in order to put foods on table.

4.4 Reasons for terminating studies

The study further asked those who had not completed their studies to form 4 levels to specify what led them to terminate their studies. Figure 4.5 presents then findings.

Table 4.5: Reasons for Terminating Studies

Reason for Terminating Studies	Frequency	Percent
Pregnancy	113	57.9
Lack of school fees	71	36.4
Lack of interest	6	3.1
Due to repeating	5	2.6
Total	195	100

Source: Research (2014)

The study found that 57.9% of the respondents terminated their studies because of pregnancy, 36.4% because of lack of school fees, 3.1% because they were not interested while 2.6% because they could not proceed to the next class. The findings indicate that majority of adolescent mothers in Masaba South Sub-County did not complete their studies to form 4 because of pregnancy.

From the finding above Pregnancy is the main reason many unmarried adolescent mothers did not finish their education up to form four since after birth they were to look after their babies and parents were not willing to pay them school fees to continue with their studies. Also because of poverty a good number of young girls were forced to drop out of school and on the process are impregnated since they had mind in getting married and are lured with men easily.

Data from the FGD for unmarried adolescent mothers, one younger mother indicated as follows:

“In second term in form two I was pregnant. When they discover I was pregnant, my father and brother they beat me up and decided to chase me away from home and go to the man responsible of my pregnancy. They didn’t care I was about to do my second term exam. My mother decided to take me to my maternal grandmother and stay with her and she treated me very good till I gave birth to my son. No one is ready to take me back to school I know all of my dreams are shattered.”

Girls are chased away from their families and this lead to terminate their studies. This makes others to drop school unwillingly. So interventions should be targeted on this transition in order to help out the situations.

Data from the FGD especially men indicated that even if these young mothers were to return to school after childbearing, there will be so many things going through their mind that they may not concentrate in class and will end up failing and they said paying school fees for them was wastage of resources .The best thing is to allow them to look care after their babies then to enroll village polytechnic to learn skills like dress making.

4.5 Pregnancy

The study asked respondents if they had ever become pregnant. All the respondents (100%) indicated that they had been pregnant. The researcher further sought information on the age of respondents when they got their first pregnancy. The researcher therefore asked respondents how old they were during their first sex and pregnancy. Table 4.6 presents the findings.

Table 4.6: Age of First Pregnancy

Age of First Pregnancy	Frequency	Percent
11-13 Years	16	7.6
14-16 Years	133	63.3
17-19 Years	61	29.1
Total	210	100

Source: Research (2014)

From the findings, 63.3% of the respondents experienced their first pregnancy in the age of 14 – 16 Years, 29.1% at the age of 17 – 19 Years and 7.6% at the age of 11 – 13 Years .The findings indicate that adolescent mothers in Masaba South Sub-County experienced their early pregnancies while less than 14-16 years.

The transition from primary to secondary school is a critical moment for girls regardless of their age because they are exposed to boy advances for sex. Also it's the period adolescent girl are fully developed in their bodies. There is expose where each girl has to have a boy friend and it like one can't do without a boy friend. So intervention should be targeted at such transitional times and body development rather than situations.

The researcher went further and asked the respondents what was the reaction of their parents when they realized that they were pregnant. This was an open ended question and therefore the findings were presented as indicated by respondents.

Respondents indicated that their parents were bitter and they engaged them in a quarrel, furious, very harsh on them and some(10%) indicated that their fathers wanted to chase them away, some (12%) they had no problem, they encouraged them to give birth and continue with their studies . They study found that respondents were ashamed, confused, shy, stressed up, some wanted to leave school completely and unhappy when they realized that they were pregnant. Mothers sometimes were shocked in the beginning but as time goes on they encourage their girls to take it easy, but fathers were the one who were so much bitter.

In FGD for unmarried adolescent mothers, a young unmarried mother said:

“When I told my mother I was pregnant, she was very shocked with my pregnancy and told me she had a lot of things planned for me for my future after my studies at school. She feared how to inform my father who most of time stays in Nairobi and comes home once a year, learning that I was pregnant he traveled home and everything was in mess and I was forced to run to my mother’s home to stay with my grandmother.”

Most parents they don’t intend to understand the origin of the matter which even leads to pregnancy rather they just be mad and in the process everything turn upside down. Mostly fathers they make life of their daughters to be hell by chasing them away. Sometimes they react so out of anger and by the time they are sober already harm has happened.

When they miss their monthly periods they don’t know how they would approach their parents and tell them that they are pregnant. Most family lacks means of communication they fear their fathers so much since they saw their mother fears them for no reason. It seems always they are in wrong side; it was difficult because we don’t communicate a lot about life and errands.

A Key Informant said (mother of an adolescent mother):

“When she told me she was pregnant I was shocked I felt like collapsing bearing in mind what her father would say. When I told my husband he did not say anything, he just kept quiet and his quietness worsens the whole situation since was not ready to tell us the way forward. I was disappointed with my daughter for the mess she has put me in us and the whole family , but I did not say anything to fearing she can do abortion and advised her not to do anything silly like abortion”

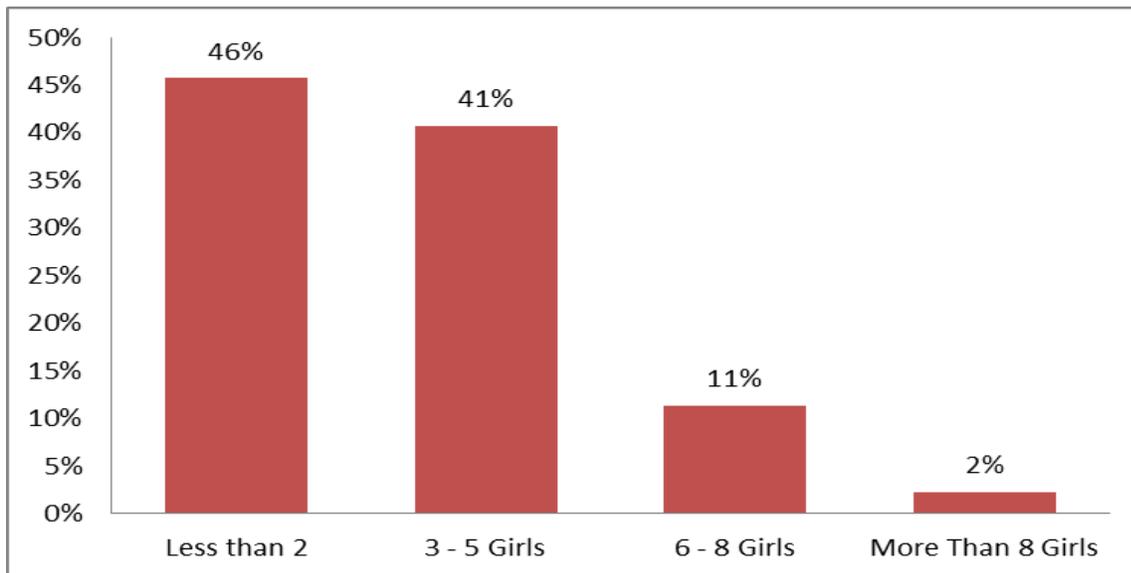
The main fear in families is because of lack of communications and most father leave the responsibility of parenting to their wives. In case of any problem involving their children all the blames goes to mother and he distance himself.

Some Parents realizing their daughter are pregnant more so when the mother informs her husband they sit down and try to solve the whole problem wisely. Data from FGD for men, one man indicated as follows:

“After my wife had informed me that our daughter was pregnant, I went to in-form principal at her school, strangely the principal was not surprised...he said he had been expecting us to come and inform him, he has been informed by her class teacher. Luckily he did not object when asked to let my pregnant daughter to remain in school even we didn't know that the government allows these girls back to school to finish their studies.”

By sharing out the problem it solves a lot of upcoming problems and faces the reality and pursues future as one. This enables girls to have family support and they take everything easy and even they promise not to repeat the same in near future. Parents are encouraged to tackle pregnancy matters with a lot of wisdom not emotions which in turn cause more harm than good. The study requested head teachers who were key informants to give a statistic of how many girls become pregnant per year in their school. Figure 4.3 presents the findings.

Figure 4.3: Distribution of Number of Girls Pregnant

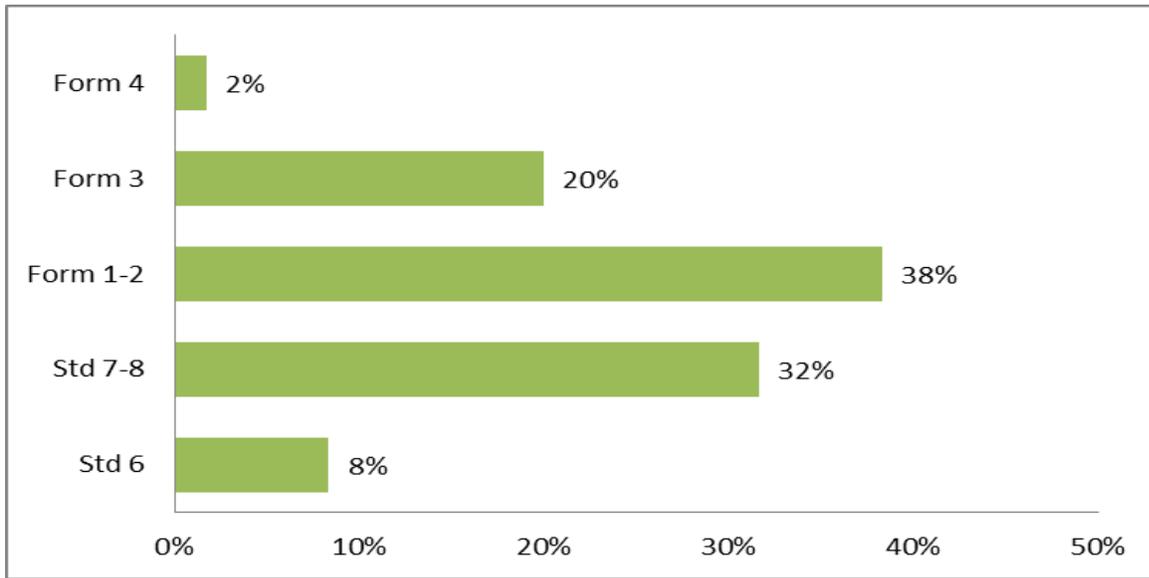


Source: Research (2014)

4.5.1 The Distribution of Pregnancies

The Head Teachers who were key informants were requested to indicate the distribution of the pregnancies in schools. The findings are presented in Figure 4.4 below

Figure 4.4: The Distribution of Pregnancies



Source: Research (2014)

From the findings, majority of the respondents (38%) indicated that girls get pregnant when they are in form 1 – 2, 32% get pregnant at standard 7 – 8, 20% at form 3, 8% at class 5 and 2% at form 4. The findings indicate that forms 1 – 2 are the most affected classes with pregnant girls in Masaba South Sub-County.

When girls join form one they intend to think they are old enough to live free life and most are influenced by other girls to a point having a boy friend is mandatory, others they engage sex with their school mate or old men from outside in exchange of sex. Parents should be keen in providing their girls with basic things they need as girls to avoid them getting from somewhere else which leads them to become pregnant.

4.5.2 Factors that Contribute to Early Pregnancy

The study requested head teachers to explain the factors that contribute to early pregnancy in their schools. From the findings, it was found that ignorance, poverty and illiteracy, curiosity and lack of mentorship by the parents are some of the factors that contribute to early pregnancy in schools. The head teachers also explained that the factors which contribute to adolescent pregnancies include poverty and areas with low practice of human rights. It found that adolescent

pregnancy is a multifaceted problem as it involves social, political, cultural, educational and economical factors. Some of the risks that the newborn babies are exposed to are premature delivery, cerebral palsies and mental retardations due to birth injuries. Adolescent pregnancies are associated with STDs, abortions and HIV/AIDS.

Data from the FGD for the unmarried adolescent mothers, one young mother said:

“We never had sex education in school. Also at home no one talks about sexuality. Like my case I am the firstborn so I don’t have my big sisters to tell me more about sex and its implication. I don’t know anything about it. I’ve just heard about sexuality and got curious, that’s why I tried engaging to sex intercourse and that same first time I became pregnant”

The lack of sex education from parents, community and teachers leads to early pregnancy since these adolescent girls are young and they don’t understand fully what is going in their body development. Also pothers since they don’t understand much about sex life sometimes out of curiosity of sex drive as they try they found themselves pregnant.

Data from FGD for women indicated that there is lack of peace and providing for the family. Most men are not hard working and they use most of their time drinking and this always leads quarrel and fights. There is no peace at all; our homes are in chaos always. Us parents we are such strict and we don’t listen to our girls anymore. They can’t open up their problems to us since we even assume them. They don’t even tell us about their love life because they know we would get angry with me. We won’t even give them money, that’s why they are forced to look for financial needs from men in exchange with sex. They have even three men who sometimes they engage sex with every weekend and this leads them to conceive.

Ignorance also contributes to this kind of pregnancy, girls even in relationships they don’t know they have rights to agree or to deny engaging in sex their boy friend blackmails them in most cases in the name of love .Young mother indicated as follows:

“My boy friend threatens to dumb me if I can’t sleep with him, I was confused but I gave in since I loved him so much and I didn’t want to lose him. We’re driven by our emotions. I forgot the danger I was in engaging in unprotected sex since he didn’t want to use condom by claiming he doesn’t enjoy and it shows I have another men. I didn’t see the severe consequences I will face

but I did it to prove to him that I real love him and I am willing to give everything since I love him so much, as time goes I missed my periods is when I got the truth that I was pregnant”

Ignorance and naivety has contributed a lot to adolescent pregnancy since they girls are threatened to be dumped by their boyfriend. These girls they really thinks if they are dumped by their boyfriends they are done because of their naivety and ignorance. They are forced to engage in unprotected sex in fear that they will be accused immoral by their boyfriends and they end up being pregnant. So awareness is required to empower adolescent girls to have focus and stand in their life to know they can do without those boyfriends who are good for nothing.

In this study it was found out that the head teachers considered low socio-economic status as the main factor for adolescent pregnancy. This finding is relevant to that of Missouri report 1995 and Nobble et al (1996) which found girls from families with economic hardships have high incidence of adolescent pregnancies. This study also found that luxury and deprivation of education for girls as other reasons for adolescent pregnancy. This goes in hand in hand with John H. (1995), who reported that unwanted pregnancies were contributed by a wide range of factors, including financial problems – especially unemployment and poverty among girls, lack of information about sexual matters, exposure, too much leisure, illiteracy and low level of education among girls.

The interesting finding in this study is that no head teacher responded to early marriage as a cause of early pregnancy. This is in contrary to WHO report (1998) which showed that about two-thirds of sub-Saharan African women gave birth before 20 years of age due to cultural norms which encourage early marriage and proving fertility at young age. Discrepancy above can be explained by the fact that WHO report is regional and the situation can vary locally. Also, this study involved students who are likely to come from literate community which does not practice early marriages for girls at young age.

The study found out that head teachers upon discovering that there are girls with early pregnancy in schools, they help them and let them continue with their studies. They also provide them with guidance and counseling and offer life skills training. The training helps in the reduction of cases

of teenage pregnancies. The principles/head teachers stated that the community is to blame for the pregnancy. Some parents even they don't want us teachers to know that their girls are pregnant since in most cases they plan to procure abortion and transfer her to another school.

A Head teacher Key Informant said:

“Some parents may already be aware of the pregnancy and are planning for an abortion and such as confrontation from teachers may disrupt their plans, and they do not like this. Some parents may go as far as asking you how you knew of the pregnancy and try and implicate you. We recently had a case of a Standard Seven girl who was pregnant and a few months later the pregnancy was not there.”

Because of shame some parents want to terminate the pregnancy their daughters are carrying. They think by so doing their daughters will finish their studies and avoid ill saying from neighbors. They should know that there is returning back to school after birth and stop contemplating about abortion which have many bad effects in life of girls.

The head teachers stated that parents should be open to their children to prevent teenage pregnancies, to accept them showing them that pregnancy is a normal thing, take care of them, spare time for their children and also advise them on how to conduct themselves while with boys. The principles also explained that the adolescents who become sexually active need access to reliable contraceptive methods. Adolescent who are at risk and those with pregnancy and parenting need psychological support and proper information and motivation not to conceive again during adolescence. It is therefore important to tackle this challenge from all aspects i.e. social, political, cultural, educational and economical aspects.

In summary the data from FGD and Key Informant on the main causes of unmarried adolescent motherhood in area. The study found that poverty is main cause of these phenomenon since those poor parents they lack enough resources to support their girls (90%). The study found out that most girls are immature to make up their decision hence they are easily lured by old men with money in exchange with sex. The study found that there is lack of parental guide since in this study area most parents are forced to go Masai land to look for green pasture and they leave their children behind hence they are easily lured since their parents are not around.

On same note the study found that some parents have failed their roles as parents. The study found that those girls from single parents their mothers doesn't guide and protect them well and they found themselves being young mothers. These girls are forced to look for men to give them money in exchange of sex. The study found that parents they don't feel free to share with their girls the danger they are in since adolescent girls are very vulnerable. The study found that some families which sell local brew, those customers who are mostly men they lure this girls with some tips in exchange with sex.

Adolescent stage where the girls want to test sex out of curiosity hence they conceive. In the most case they lack awareness on even how to engage in sex and how to use contraceptives. The study found that they don't use contraceptives and for those use them are taken as immoral. The study found that some teachers lure their students in order to give them good marks and good grades. The study found out that ignorance and lack of self control, peer pressure and influence leads to this girl to engage in sex. Some girls give in for sex as form of appreciations. Some girls want to get pregnant in order to drop out of school.

4.6 Challenges in Unmarried Adolescent Motherhood

The study in this section sought information about the challenges adolescent mothers face when they are pregnant. It started by asking respondents what challenges they encountered when they become pregnant as adolescents and as unmarried adolescent mothers. From the findings, adolescents experienced lack of financial and others resources to rear their children, psychological torture, shyness and shame, some expelled completely from their families, dropped out of school, most of their friends abandoned them and to some, their fathers abused them all the time. Also they experience stigma, discrimination, lack of parental and child's father support, regarded as deviant, where frustrated and stressed, balancing school work and parental life is such difficult task.

4.6.1 Financial challenges

Unmarried adolescent mothers lack money to attain their daily necessities for them and their babies; they lack financial support from their parents who are poor (80%).rearing a baby is

difficult task since they need to be taken to hospital now and then and for unmarried adolescent mothers it's a big challenge since most of them were from poor backgrounds. The newborn babies require cloths, nappies and other facilities which is a big burden for unmarried adolescent mothers. In most cases as these babies grow they require to eat well balance diet which is not possible since these unmarried adolescent mothers they can't afford it. In most cases they lack parental and child's father support. They take care of their children on their own with the small income they get from odd jobs or for those practicing small farming by selling some farm product. These sources of income for them they are not enough hence are faced with a lot of financial challenges. Those from single families their mothers are the bread winners and what they get is not enough. Economically things are very difficult for these young mothers especially where other extra money needed since their parents have limited resources.

Data from the FGD for the unmarried adolescent mothers, most of them they said:

“Financially we depend on our parents to take care of our babies and we sometimes when we need money for the babies' needs our parents can't provide immediately since our fathers are very mean and most of us our mothers doesn't work they also depends on our fathers for financial support. Sometimes our father denies us money in the name that they want us to learn a lesson for why we became pregnant. Finally sometimes our parents they don't have money so we are forced to suffer since we have nothing to do”

Most of unmarried adolescent depends on their parents for financial support since are young even are not able to do some work to earn a living. Their parents are forced to help them since they have no option. Sometimes since in many family holds fathers are the bread winners sometimes punishes their daughters by denying them basic needs to learn lesson of becoming pregnant before their right time. Also some parents are will to assist their girls but are not in position to assist since are poor.

A Key Informant said:

“Everything's a challenge, to get required food for the baby, buying cloths,, being able to survive, purchasing nappies, taking baby to hospital is such a challenge to these unmarried

adolescent mothers since most of their parents are poor and affording to put food in table is very hard.”

Taking care for the baby and providing them with basic need its challenging, parents should look for means on how to assist their daughters in order to overcome these challenges. Parenting requires a lot of resources and these young mothers from poor families they suffer a lot.

Girls end up getting another pregnancy since due to poverty and lack of money they depend on men who give them money in exchange for sex. This when their partners disowned them and their parents are not able to provides to them, also they need social and economic support from a man, many of them usually engage sex with married men who have money and provides financial support in exchange for sex. They usually take such decision out of necessity, not out of choice and they end up with more frustrations.

Data from the FGD for the unmarried adolescent mothers, most of them they said:

“In most of cases we are left alone to struggle with our problems, our parents they don’t even want to listen to us or realize our problems since they claim we are no longer children but parents and we can take care of our babies since we knew we were mature enough to do so that is why we wanted to be pregnant. We are forced to look for men who support us financial in exchange of sex but this leads to even having another pregnancy but if one wants she can abort”.

Parents abandon their girls when they discoverer are pregnant and after birth. They term them as grownups that can provide for themselves .also some parents may be willing to help their daughters but they are very poor even providing for the rest of children is a challenge and when their girls gave birth the situation worsen more. This leads to more challenges in these unmarried adolescent mothers to have cycle of problems.

The data from FGD men indicated that the unmarried adolescent mothers are forced to work hard in order to support their babies. They drop out of school to attend their babies. They try their best to find odd jobs to support their babies. They don’t like to depend on their boyfriends since some were willing to assist but were unable. Besides they join ‘chamas’ in women groups and they save money so that they can proceed with their studies to attain their dream in life. This makes their life miserable and even leads to psychological problems.

4.6.2 Psychological Challenges

The moment the adolescent girl discovers she has conceived it's the genesis of many psychological problems. Most of the time she is confused what to do or who to break the news to their parents and this makes them have a stressful life. Others are advised by their friends to abort but most fear to die. The problem continues to the time of birth where even it worsens since there is a new born to look after. These unmarried adolescent mothers hate themselves and intend that there is no future. This leads to a higher level of mental health disorder; unmarried adolescent mothers are at an increased risk of developing mental health problems i.e. depression and anxiety since pregnancy and parenting can lead to emotional distress. This results in a stressful life event.

Data from FGD both for men and women indicated that most of unmarried adolescent mothers experience poverty since they come from a poor background, academic difficulty since balancing school work and parenting is a hard task, and sexual abuses since men take them to be cheap and that's why they have babies also to lure them with money as they think are so desperate for money take care of their babies. This results in increased emotional challenges for the unmarried adolescent mothers.

Unmarried adolescent mothers also experienced an increased level of economic stress since they are young and have no any source of income and entirely depend on their parents for financial support, with child care support being one of the most critical supports unmarried adolescent mothers can receive due to its influence on educational and financial attainment and this leads them to have many psychological challenges.

When unmarried adolescents get another boyfriend it hurts them since the boy/man says he loves the girl but he doesn't want to hear anything about her baby. Most men they even remind them of their agony when telling them that they were cheap and that is the reason they got pregnant compared to other girls in the community. This hurts them psychologically by putting a hot nail on their healing wounds.

Data from the FGD for the unmarried adolescent mothers, they said:

“Currently even if you have another boyfriend who claims they love you so much, but when mention about your child they doesn’t want to hear that. That is the greatest challenge in our relationship since sometimes they condemn us that we are cheap. We don’t give up since we real depend on them for financial support and we don’t want to lose them to other girls.”

Most men don’t take easily on girls with children, they blame unmarried adolescent mothers being cheap and that why they got pregnant at young age. This transition have been experienced up to marriage were men don’t treat well the kids who didn’t fathered. Awareness should be emphasized tin order to eliminate this kind of discrimination so that unmarried adolescent mothers to feel are same as others girls in getting married without any hindrance.

Finally unmarried adolescent mothers experience emotional challenges by lacking manly support. When they sees around they see how married women have the support from their husband who comfort them in case their babies are sick, for adolescent mothers they entirely did it alone and this brought a lot of emotional challenges. Furthermore some of those responsible for these pregnancies are small boys who have nothing but fed by their parents.

A Key Informant said:

“Many of young boys who impregnate adolescent girls in this community are also dependent on their parents most of whom are poor. Therefore, many of these boys denied ownership of the pregnancies of which they are primarily responsible. This is the major reason why there is high rate of single parenthood (never married) among adolescent mothers in this area.”

As they young boys and girls grow together they mingle a lot and in the process out of curiosity of sex drive they engage in unprotected sex which leads to pregnancies, sometimes these young ones are related and their parents have nothing to do in matter of responsibility since these young boys are being fed by their parents. Caution should be taken in order to control the freeness on this young people and parents should monitor them well.

4.6.3 School Work and Parenting Challenges

Data from FGD indicated that mostly when these young mother were returning to school after birth they face a lot of challenges which make them uncomfortable in school mostly this leads to poor performance. Some teachers blame them indirect by telling other students that it's not good to be a mother and student at same time, stop sleeping around with boy and old men. The girls were ashamed and shy since sometimes they wet their blouse with breast milk.

Data from the FGD for the unmarried adolescent mothers, they said:

“Going back to school as a mother is not easy, you have to be very strong and put on a stone face since everyone looks at you even fellow girl are the one share the news to boys who in turn they mocks you so much and laughs at you since they tried to seduce you and you rejected them. But if you are shy type and cry every time people say something bad about you will be demolished from attending the classes and sometimes this leads to school drop outs. You will not survive it since you are forced to relocate even from your village to avoid shame.”

Those who gave birth and went back to school they experience a lot of challenges from other students even teachers since sometimes they were letting their fellow boys student down and went to old men who pregnant them. Other girls who claims are smart since are not mothers they really mock those who are mothers and this leads to them even dropping out of school.

Unmarried adolescent mothers were so much ashamed when they return to school, they felt odd one out and this real resulted to poor performance, they felt even like dropping out of school but there were teachers who supportive by encouraging them till they were settled fully in school as before.

From another FGD for young mothers they had the similar experience:

“When we went back to school we were ashamed and even planned to drop out of school since we felt a lot of shame. Our teachers encouraged us a lot and some even shared with us that they gave birth in school but they finished their studies and are successive people now. Those boy who wanted us to be their girl friends they mocked us a lot, this made us very stressed and frustrated with but we had no option just to remain in school to finish our studies.”

Mechanism should be provided on how to handle unmarried adolescent mothers who manage to return back to school so that they would be comfortable in school and to have conducive environments for their studies. Also other students should be well guided on how to handle fellow students who are mothers and how to help them even to feel more comfortable and not isolated.

They skip schools to look after their babies if there is no one to look after them ,also they skip schools to attend their babies more so when they are sick and they are supposed breast feed them. This leads to poor performance in schools since they are forced to be out of school like the whole week.

Data from the FGD for the unmarried adolescent mothers, one young mother said:

“Sometimes we have to skip school and look after our babies, when our mothers are not at home we have to skip school, in most cases they travel like five times in a month and those are school days we have to skip school and our class master are aware. Also a lot of days when the children are sick we stay at home until are better since most of time they doesn't eat so we have to breast feed them.”

It's such challenging when there is no one unmarried adolescent mother can leave her baby to, sometimes are forced to skip schools to take good care for their babies, this leads them to perform poorly in their studies. But for those from well of family baby sitter is employed by her parents so she doesn't experience such challenges.

Since these young mothers are girls, there are chores and family roles they have to doing on top of looking after their babies. When they come from school, they have to go to fetch water from the river, clean their uniform and babies cloths, they have to clean the house, and to prepare super if they are the first born since their mothers to usually operates business in local markets. After they have finished with all their chores they are so much exhausted and doing their studies is such big challenge since there is no one to help them. Also they are forced to wait their babies to sleep before they start doing their school work. They would go to bed very late since in most

cases they have to my finish their homework since they have morning preps and they submit their work for marking.

Data from the FGD for the unmarried adolescent mothers, they said:

“Most of us who are in school we wake up at 5 a.m. to prepare breakfast and the baby food and feed them. Schools start at 6.45 am with early morning preps which compulsory. So we are normally late or sometimes we miss preps, and if duty teachers are strict, she/he punishes us for that. In the evenings, we wash our babies’ dirty clothes, and then we cook the evening meal, feed them, fetch water for house use and clean up the dishes. By the time we are done with all these duties we are so tired and trying to study we find ourselves sleepy, this have affected our performance greatly.”

Schooling and parenting is such challenging task, unmarried adolescent mothers they have to take care of their babies and concentrate with their studies. In most case they face a lot of challenges balancing the two. For those who are the first born also have another extra task of looking after entire family, their mothers do some business to sustain them. Parents should be advised to see how to help their girls in order to minimize their family chores to give them humble time to concentrate with their studies.

4.6.4 Social Isolation

Most girls discovering that are pregnant are such ashamed and in most cases they chose to remain indoors since fellow students mock them in every aspect. But for teachers who are parents understand all are going through and encourage continuing with their studiers. Mostly their boyfriends deny them even accuses them for having other extra fairs with other men. This is due fear of taking responsibility and the girls’ end sup suffering with a lot of stress. The situation worsen when they gave birth when most of their friends they don’t mingle with them ,are termed as mothers not girls any more, in the process they lose all of their friends parents warns their girls to avoid unmarried adolescent mothers since they believe can influence them to get pregnant.

Data from the FGD for the unmarried adolescent mothers, they said:

“We used to have many friends who were mingling together, going to church together and doing other activities together. When they discover we were pregnant they tried to avoid us but if they came to see us they wanted to investigate if we have procured abortion. After we gave birth they real change and even they forgot us even claiming that we are so stupid allowing ourselves into pregnancy. So we don't have friends and it's so hurting, if one doesn't console herself she may end up suffering psychologically”.

Those girls who even if they got pregnant they abort they usually refer those gave birth as stupid and in darkness. Also some parents warn their girls in interacting with unmarried adolescent mothers. Also unmarried adolescent mothers they hate themselves and in most case they separate themselves since they always feel guilt for nothing. Hence there is social isolation. Girls should be advised to be close to their friends and encourage them in order to help them to be stress free by mingle with them as before. Also parents should be advised not to warn their girl to interact with unmarried adolescent mothers rather to be friends as usual.

They are dumped by their boyfriends who mostly like those in university they look for fellow university students as new girlfriends. Most of them they have nothing to do with their boyfriends. In most case those are in university they look for university girls and leave them suffering alone with their babies. When they think about them are so much stressed and cry the whole day examining the problems they are in comparing the boy how he is enjoying wherever he is.

4.6.5 Societal Disapproval

Data from FGD for men indicated that these adolescent mothers' faces a lot of stigma, community condemns them, talk's lot o f evil things about these young mothers. Women are the one have a lot to do with these problems, they even condemn the mother of the girls not give their girls good training in life and discipline. Also according to young mothers their friends are not left out, they are not good to them at all, they gossip more rumor and evil things about their pregnancies and they laugh at them. They do not trust them, because if you tell them something today, tomorrow they will hear it from someone else and this hurts them so much. So friends are such bad people, they pretend to be good and feel pity to your problems but in real sense they

term them as stupid, ignorant, fake and primitive. This became big challenges in community and it harms these unmarried adolescent mothers a lot.

Data from the FGD for the unmarried adolescent mothers, one young mother said:

“You felt that you are being watched by everyone when walk around like going to market or in church. We tried to fashion ourselves so that no one can see we breast feed but in vain since sometimes you smell breast milk. Always in your mind you think that people are talking about you and if they laugh it make matters worse and you feel bitter and stressed. Some women points at us and stop what they were doing to watch us. It’s such bad experience in life but for now we are ok and doing our own things and we don’t care what they are saying.”

Because of shame when unmarried adolescent mothers they intend that everyone is being watching them. This is because they know that being a mother at their age is such bad thing in society. Awareness should be provided in order to overcome this kind of thinking.

These young mothers are not respected by the community they are regarded as deviant and immoral. They are form of burden and they don’t get any help from local leaders. They are stressed up and their lives become miserable unless they are given a support by their parents. When they encounter different challenges and problems, they really don’t know where to go to because when they approach even their mothers, they don’t help them but reminding them that all these problems they entered into it by their self so just be with their problems. They real suffer a lot and they have no means to save themselves from these challenges and problems. They are neglected by their parents and other family members and are seen as deviants.

4.6.6 Stigma and Discrimination Challenges

There is a lot of discrimination from church leaders and the whole church. These judgments make it more stressful for unmarried adolescent mothers since everyone sees them as living Satan. This makes the challenges a little harder even in church they are looked as evil people

instead to given hope. They are not allowed to participate in church activities and girls are discouraged being their friends since they can influence and inflict them to get pregnant.

Data from the FGD for the unmarried adolescent mothers, they said:

“Some of us we were strong youth choir members and after pregnancy we attended like two months and the leaders were informed that we were pregnant. Our pastors announced that some youth choir members are pregnant and they sing as if nothing has happened, we were called later and warned to stop in participating in any church activities, and the trend continues even after we gave birth.. going to church one feel odd one out since everyone is looking at you strangely, we requested for prayers for our babies was declined by saying our babies are illegitimate without father .no one want to go back again, because of being frowned upon, laughed at, discrimination and stigma.”

Those who are participating in church activities are supposed to be role model in their life, if they are found with anything goes against teachings of their church are supposed to stop participating in church activities. Also as church leader should try as much to protect the image of their church but should use friendly means and make it as private as possible to avoid demoralizing their church members more these young mothers.

4.6.7 Harshness of Fathers

Data from FGD indicated that fathers of these adolescent mothers were harsh and even chase them away and on process they were faced with a lot of challenges. Some fathers chased their girls the moment they discovered they were pregnant and others when they gave birth, they tell them to take the baby to their father. Chasing these young mothers puts them in server challenges since most of them end up in marriage as even a second wife or to irresponsible men which worsen the situation a lot.

Data from the FGD for the unmarried adolescent mothers, one young mother said:

“Immediately my step-father heard that I was pregnant he insisted that I leave his house immediately even he wanted to chase me and my mother claiming that I am like my mother who gave birth to me when she was young. My mother pleaded with him he agreed but said when I

gave birth to go to my man. After I gave birth the following day he chase me so I went to live with my grandmother, but there I have to work and take care of myself since my grandmother she was old.”

In society there is mentality that when adolescent girls engage in premarital sex it's their mothers who don't teach them well. Men always condemn their wives for any pregnancy of their daughters. People forget pregnancy involves two parts; this mentality should be addressed in order to overcome this prejudice. Men intend their wives fail to guide their girls well.

After birth most girls are forced to move away from their homes by their fathers and their mothers has no say over it, they are forced to move from their homes to go and stay with their boyfriends. Their boyfriends took advantages of them and abused them a lot, even demanded sex from them without understanding their status they are in since after birth one has to take some time before engaging in sex.

4.6.8 Lack of Social Protection from Parents

There is Poor relationships with their parents, parents are ashamed because of their girls are mothers, this leads to lack of respect for their parents from the community and are not taken any serious with their life. The adolescent mothers are forced into early marriage so that they can reduce the burdens for their parents and able to be provided by the men who marry them. They are denied their human rights like they are being chased way by their fathers to get married instead of giving them land to settle down. Data from the FGD for unmarried adolescent mothers indicated a follows:

“Since we got the pregnancies our parents and us we don't get along at all, the same have been since the arrival of our babies to this day. Sometimes our parents they want us to get married and remove the shame from them. Our parents are always angry with us and blame us for everything and also for us being involved with men all over. Since having our babies there is a lot of conflict between our parents, in most cases our fathers blame our mothers a lot.”

Parents always want best for their children, when their daughters become pregnant real feel so bad and amounts kind of shame have put them in. Sometimes there is no communication rather

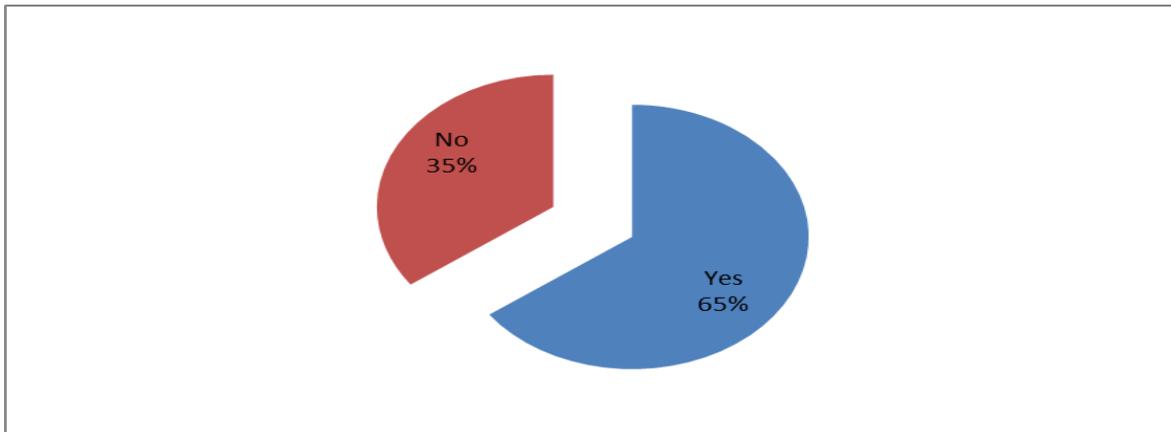
blaming each other. Parents should learn on how to accept the situation at hand and see out ways to help their girls to live positively.

4.7 How they handled the Challenges

When asked how they handled the challenges, respondents indicated that it was difficult to handle but they handled them politely, some stayed firm, comforted and encouraged themselves to give birth then return back to school. Some of the respondents handled the challenges by the help of their family; their mothers were there for them who gave them support they needed. The findings found that family members were supportive and took them to the hospital, paid their hospital bills and that their mothers and sisters were there for them full time.

The study asked respondents if they feared to share their challenges with their parents. The study found that 65% of the respondents feared to share their challenges while 35% did not as shown in figure 4.5

Figure 4.5: Distribution of Respondent by whether or not they shared the Challenge with significant others



Source: Research (2014)

Respondents who feared to share their challenges indicated that somehow, it was shameful because their parents were harsh but when they shared them, their parents gave help and advised me accordingly.

Data from the FGD from men, women and unmarried adolescent mothers indicates that the above challenges can be tackled by providing parental support, group support, teachers support and community support. On parental support Parents are supposed to support their girls and their grandchildren. Also parents to teenage mothers should offer unconditional support, financially, physically and emotional to their daughters and grandchildren. Also parents should not leave all the responsibility to the young mother since these young mothers they don't know much on parenting. Parents should understand and supportive to their girls, having an unplanned child when one is still in school is bad enough for the teenage mothers and it real drains their life comparing themselves to others. Everything turns to worst when their parents are unsupportive and judgmental to their deeds which can't be reversed.

A chief Key informant said:

“Parents should also be supportive because if they turn their backs on their children who are teenage mothers, they make life so hard for them as most of them those responsible for pregnancies they abandons them when they discover they were pregnant, also some boyfriends (father of the child) are still schooling and they depend on their parents. So parents become the last hope and they should always provide financially, physically and emotionally supports and guide and direct unmarried adolescent mothers about parenting responsibility.”

To be encouraged to go back to school to finish their studies and attain their life dreams. Parents should be encouraged to take back their girls to school to finish their studies; also this hinders them not to be involved in another relationship which may lead to another pregnancy. In school Teachers should stop being judgmental and throwing nasty comments about the adolescent mothers in the class since this makes teenage mothers feel odd one out at school because when teachers throw nasty comments, the classmates laughs more so boys and that is ill attitudes to unmarried adolescent mother and they should be supportive to teenage mothers instead of mocking them. Unmarried adolescent mothers they might end up dropping out of school if this kind of mocking goes on. Also teachers should also understand and give notes as they try to teach them during break time to those who fell behind because of missing school due to attending their children like the time of sickness.

On the group support unmarried adolescent mothers are supposed to form small groups this will enable them to get funds from government and other NGOs the resources help them to start up their business. Also to be offered with life skills/courses-technical courses like dress making, beauty skills, and to engage in income generating activities for those didn't make to go back to school due to many reasons. Forums should be provided by social workers to unmarried adolescent mothers where they discuss and help each other about their experiences they encounter in being unmarried adolescent mothers. The social worker should give them support and explain to them how to deal with such experiences and how to be effective parents and also to counsel those who are having great emotional or even social problems in their life.

Also on the group support, Social workers should have regular meetings with teenage mothers together with those who are non-mothers, where they teach them about challenges of having a baby at a young age. This enables them to have an organization that supports, teaches and encourages unmarried adolescent mothers to cope with their challenges and discussing their experiences with others who are in the same situation as them. In these meetings they should discuss issues such as sexual activity in the younger age, also how to prevent teenage pregnancy and giving awareness to those who are mothers already as to how to make their experience of being an unmarried adolescent mothers be less distressing. This awareness should include aspects such as how to manage their time so that they can have a balance between caring for the child, family chores and studying and also awareness on how to effectively raise babies to good life.

On Government and community support it's the duty the government to support the unmarried adolescent mother by coming up with different policies like that one of returning back to school after birth. Also for the community they should be friendly to these unmarried adolescent and this enable them to feel are still the members of their community. Community members should support them emotionally and not blame the teenage mothers for having the children. They should also help by providing what they have which can help the baby, especially clothes and food stuff. Community should stop judging the unmarried adolescent mothers and accept them the way they are, this should makes the life of unmarried adolescent mothers easy to live and stress free. Community members should be supportive and stops condemn the unmarried

adolescent mothers by gossiping and ill talk, this makes them feel even more battered and being cared for. Also the government should introduce policy that unmarried adolescent mothers returning to school are vulnerable and they would not pay school fee this will enable them to finish their studies since after birth most of parents they don't want to waste their resources in these unmarried adolescent mothers.

Data from key informant indicated that Religious leader and the church at large to stop discriminating these young mothers and treat them in friendly manner since this enables them to feel loved and taken good care. Church leaders should forgive them and if they want to participate in church active to be given a chance since they have confessed their sins and past life. Also those men/boys responsible for these pregnancies they are required to be there and be more responsible to provide for the babies they sired if they are not in school and this will reduce the challenges of these unmarried adolescent mothers.

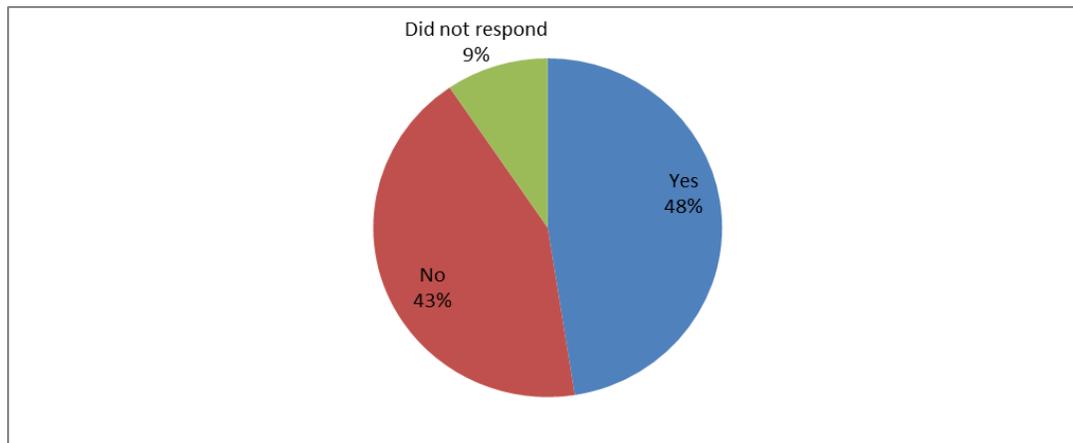
4.7.1 Impacts of Unmarried Adolescent Motherhood in Study Area

Data from FGD from both men and women indicated that there are impacts of single adolescent motherhood in the study areas. It increases poverty since these young mothers stopped their studies, they depend on their parents for financially and this makes their parents poorer. Mothers take double responsibility of rearing their daughters and their grandchildren. Lack any kind of financial support for girls since most of them come from poor background. Girls are in dilemma and end up getting another pregnancy. It leads to single motherhood and deviant of their children. It leads to lack of harmony and peace in families. There is Lack of respect on these young mothers. Girls 'drops out of school since some lack the school fees when there were no one was ready and willing to pay for them. Girls are undermined as they are termed as deviant and morally decayed. Young girls are forced to early marriage by their fathers. There is hostility in their families since fathers blame their wives. There Poor performances in schools by these young mothers due to absenteeism. It leads to increase in crime rate. Children they may not have well healthy since these young mothers may not be able to rear their babies' well-lack of experience. It leads to prostitution. It leads to teenage parenthood. It increases cases of illiteracy.

4.7.2 Father of the Child

The study requested respondents to indicate whether they knew the father of their child. Figure 4.6 presents the findings.

Figure 4.6: Distribution of Respondent by if they knew the father of their child



Source: Research (2014)

From the findings, 48% of the respondents knew about the father of the child while 43% did not know. However, 9% of the respondents did not disclose whether they knew or they did not know the well bout of their child’s father.

Data from FGD especially women indicated the main reason why some unmarried adolescent they don’t know who impregnated them is because most of girls they have up to five boyfriends and old men around but those knew the father of their babies are those had one boyfriend; they have both old men and boys of their age. If they love those boys of their age but have no money to give them so they are forced to have old men who support them financially. From FGD of unmarried adolescent mothers they indicated as follow:

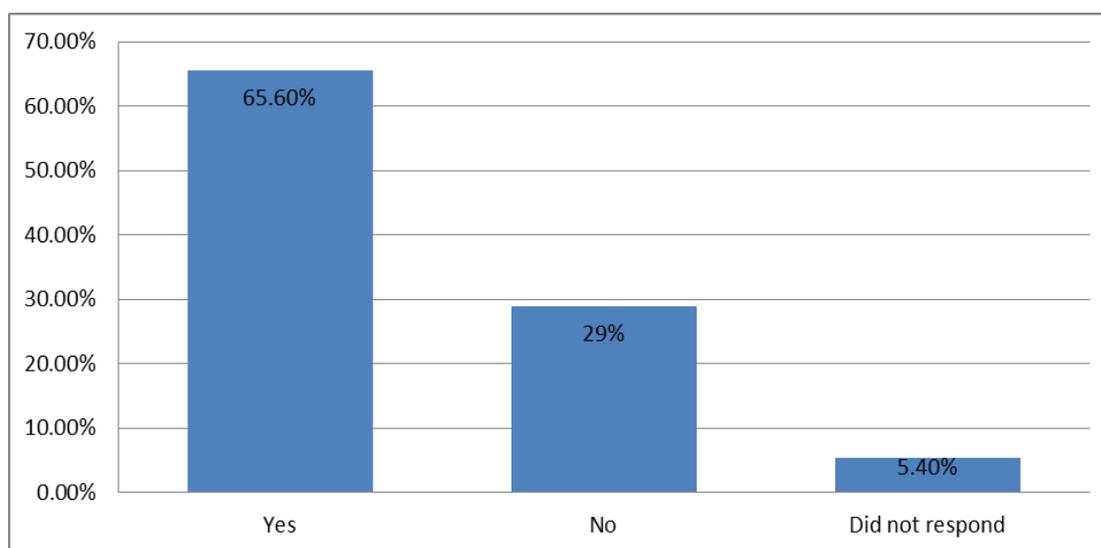
“We can’t eat love, we need to be smart as other girls around us, when are going to sports and other curriculum activates we need money to caters for lunch and refreshments. Our parents are not able to support us so we are forced to look for means to get money so to acquire what we want. We have boyfriends in school around us and in our villages since we know also our friends

they don't rely on us alone they have other girls. Our boyfriends who we both students they give us ksh100 bob since they have no money even that they borrow from their parents or from their school fees, but those working men outside their they gave us up to ksh 2000 and this money much enough to purchase what you want, we keep both our boyfriends and our men sometimes like if you get pregnant it's hard to know who is responsible and we tries to claim to the old man since he have money but he threatens you to eliminate you."

Girls engages in sex more than one partner since in school have boy friends who don't have money to give them and on the some have old men who give them money to sort out their problems. This problem is due to when parents are not providing for them since girls require a lot of necessity compared to boy. Some parents are poor and it's hard even to put food on table. Girls are supposed to accept their situations they are in and stop engaging sex in exchange for money and parents should try their best to provide for their girl's at least those basic needs for girls.

The study requested to know if the fathers were responsible for the pregnancies and their children. Figure 4.5 shows that 65.6% of the fathers were responsible while 29% were not. However, 5.4% of the respondents did not specify the responsibility of their partners.

Figure 4.7: Responsibility of Fathers



Source: Research (2014)

The findings indicate that majority of the fathers to children's of the adolescent mothers in Masaba South Sub-County are responsible and they support their children. Their fathers helped in raising money for the hospital, food for the child, buy them clothes and even visit them more often.

4.7.3 Reaction of the Teachers, Family Members and the Community to adolescent pregnancy

The study requested respondents to explain what reaction their teachers and community had when they realized that they are pregnant. The study found that they advised them not to leave school; some were sent out of school, they comforted them, advised not to do abortion, they guided them and consoled them. The study found that they were very encouraging; they advised them to give birth and go back to school.

Other members of the family were happy for their problems, nothing, laughing at them, gossiping, they wanted to know the father of the child, others wanted them to abort and provided them whatever they needed. The study found that the community was happy for their problems, gossiping and laughing, the experience was bad, it was the community's happiness and some advised them to go back to school.

The study asked respondents to state how parents and other family members helping. The study found that some of the mothers are helped with nothing, they are not financially stable, they are provided with basic needs, paying their fee and taking care of their child while they are not there, it's excellent, and they took them back to school.

The study further asked respondents the type of relationship they have with the parents now that they have a child. The study found that the relationship is challenging, they are ok, helpful to them, not real good, excellent and that it's not bad compared to when they got pregnant.

The study found that the main challenges they are facing today are: nobody is looking after their child, lack of money, poverty, lack of money to take care of their child, despise them and being misused by others.

The study found that the parents are aware of what they are undergoing through but some are helping them while others are not helping them to overcome the challenges. For those who accepted that they help them, they indicated that they do it by helping them on how to be a good mother in future.

Data from the FGD for women indicated that the community generally responds to this phenomenon of unmarried adolescent mothers by solving it locally. Those old men and are working class responsible for pregnancy bribes parents of the girl like 50 thousands and since the parents are from poor background they found that amount so huge and assume everything leaving the man free man. On the same, data from the key informant indicated that in most case these men gives out money to cover their names and shame, they sometimes gives the parents gifts time in time out till everything is covered completely.

Data from FGD indicated that most fathers of girls about 80% they become wild and hungry with their girls, others even chase them away. Fathers condemn their wives for not teaching their girls good lifestyle and development in body change and life guiding them about their stages. Parents somehow welcome this phenomenon, more so mothers. Parents are shocked, ashamed and confused. Some parents support their girls fully even taking them back to school.

Data from FGD for men, women and unmarried adolescent mothers indicated that the community takes it as normal thing or an accident in community since most of households have girls with babies at adolescent age. This is why The Community takes it as a common phenomenon about 70%. Some leaders interrogate about the pregnancies to know who is responsible of that pregnancies but on the process they assume everything since those old men when confronted they know how to handle the cases with the administration leaders mostly by giving them good amount of money and everything remain stagnant. On the same most of these unmarried adolescent mothers are impregnated by their fellow students and fellow village boys who are every poor. Also one key informant said as follows:

“When the chief tries to know who is responsible for pregnancy to be held responsible it shocks him since he finds out that most of them are young boys from their schools and village who impregnate these adolescent girls in this community, these boys are also dependent on their parents most of whom are poor. Here the chief has nothing to do since these young boys are helpless.”

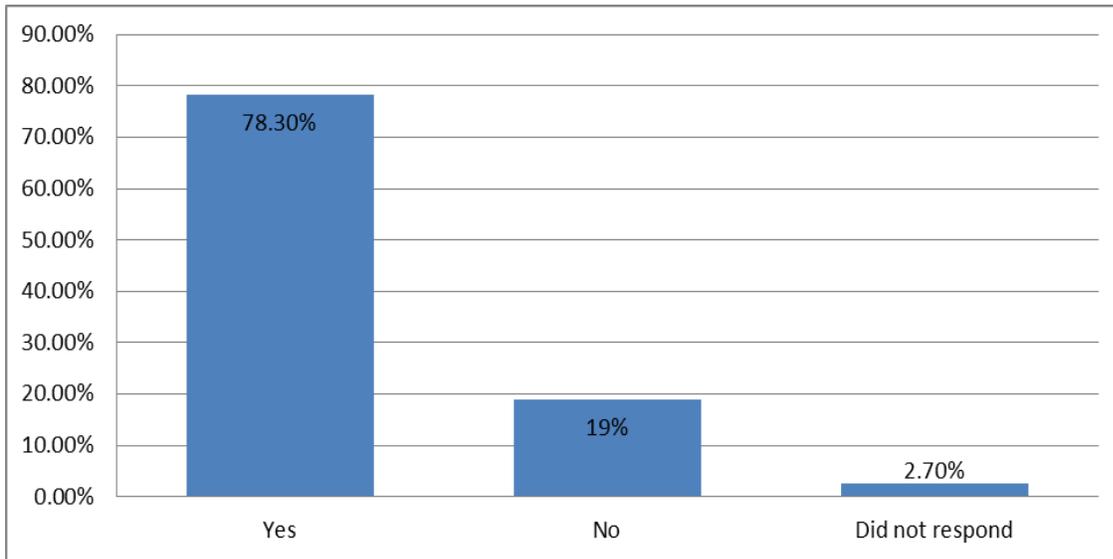
There is common tendency of boys and girls engaging in sex so parents and community at large should look for means to overcome this problem in order to reduce unwanted pregnancy among young girls.

Some religious leaders condemn this phenomenon even they suspend these girls from participating in church activities. This leads others even develop health problems and complications due to stress and depression. Stigma from the community, friends and other family members as they avoid these young mothers, others laugh at them and look down upon them. Some community members don't respect parents of these young mothers by claiming that are the one lack to discipline and direct them well in good values in society.

4.8 Community Initiative to counter challenges in unmarried adolescent motherhood

The study sought information about community initiatives in unmarried adolescent mothers in Masaba South Sub-County. The study asked respondents if they returned to school after giving birth. Figure 4.8 presents the findings.

Figure 4.8: Return to School



From the findings, majority of the respondents (78.3%) were in agreement that they returned to school after giving birth while 19% did not. However, 2.7% did not answer the question. Respondents indicated that they did not return because they were shy and their friends were laughing at them. However, respondents indicated that if given a chance they will return to school and continue with their studies.

Data from key informant indicated that

“there is high rate of girls returning to school since government put policies to return to back to school,also after girls are being discovered that they are pregnant they are encouraged and counseled by those teachers from guidance and counseling department. This gives them humble time continue with their study till seventy or eighty month. This enables them to mingle with other students well and as time goes they take it as normal. After birth they take like one term at home and they come back to continue their studies”.

The government policy on re-admission of girls back to school after birth has of great help. Girls are given time to stay in school till the pregnancy is due. This has helped greatly in reducing unwanted pregnancies among adolescent. Parents should be encouraged to take back their girls to school to finish their studies after birth.

The study found out that the main challenges they are anticipating to get if they return to school are: unfriendly students who don't want to associate with these young mothers, idleness/drug abuse, discrimination and criticism from peers and teachers when attending school. Even though a dedicated school for adolescent mothers may be more beneficial, they may feel left out from typical school activities.

Data from FGD for men, women and unmarried adolescent mothers indicated that most girls continued with their studies after they gave birth because they want to attain their career dream. The members of their family help them to take care of their babies as they go back to school to finish their studies. Also family members tries all means possible to make sure they provide basic needs for both mother and her baby. Some students make fun for these girls, their friends they avoid them, some teachers don't respect them, and they are seen as failures but at end other students are asked to respect them and their status of being mothers, in return this give them humble time in school and concentrate in their studies. As they return back to school they face all of these challenges but there are helped by fellow students, teachers and their parents. Also mostly they are forced to repeat in order to catch up well with the syllabus since they wasted much time as they nearing giving birth and after birth and their parents or those supporting their studies they pay school fee without any complain. But the good enough their parents support them fully since they look for their babies and they promised them to work hard so to provide bright future of babies. Most of them they are performing very well even topping in their classes.

Data from the FGD for the unmarried adolescent mothers, one young mother said:

“To me it was difficult to cope in school since everyone avoided and this leads me to contemplate to drop out of school. My class teacher who used to love me she changed even when I asked her to coach me during her free time she told me she doesn't deal with parents. I real experienced tough moments, but when I shared with my sisters they told me that I am not the first girl who have a baby and return back to school. They told me they had babies and they finished their studies and passed well and joined universities compared to those were not parents. So many girls have babies and they return to school. My sisters are very much supportive even they paid a house girl to look after my son. Presently I score between B+ and A- and if things went well I must join university to study education.”

If there ladies in family we were victims of young mothers and managed to be successive, when their young ones are in the same problem they real help them out since they understand how challenging it's to be young mother. They even make sure they pay school fees for them and even paying for baby sitter to look after their babies. Community should learn to support these young mothers in order break the vicious cycle.

Data from a key informant who is a teacher she indicated that after some time these young mothers are always happy in the class since they real wanted to be back to school to finish their studies; they assume all negative things form fellow students and younger teachers. Other students as they mock them they keep them awake since they work hard to top them in class and they will attack them back since they are best in class. When they are at school don't have any problems since all kind of discrimination, avoidance and other negative attitudes from fellow students has become part of their life. But at home it seems that their problems are more and worse since have to look after their babies and do family chores which are obligated to them as girls. We are forced to talk to other students to show these young mothers love and respect and to support them where possible, presently they have changed. From the teacher information one unmarried adolescent mother indicated as follows:

“My friends that I have at school now are so supportive and they assist me a lot. We assist each other with schoolwork too. If I am absent they would assist me with notes. When I am at home I would sometimes go to one of my friend's house and go borrow a book and write the notes and also she shows me and explains to me how they were taught and this has helped me such big to maintain my performance.”

For those who have already returned to school, the study found that (54.3%) of the respondents indicated that it was their parents idea as shown in Table 4.7 below.

Table 4.7: Distribution of Respondent by source of Idea to Return to School

Idea to return to School	Frequency	Percent
Parents	120	54.3
Elder brother/sister	85	38.5
Did not respond	16	7.2
Total	221	100

The study found that (38.5%) of the respondents indicated that it was their elder brother/sisters idea while 7.2% did not specify. The study found out that majority of the respondents (50.7%) returned to the same school while 29.9% went to another school and they experienced the anticipated challenges upon the return to school. The study found out that the community has assisted has done nothing to assist the victims while others stated that the community encouraged them not to abort.

Data from FGD indicated that communities have provided awareness in order to reduce unmarried adolescent motherhood in the area. The church has provided moral teachings to young people on how to handle their life and lead Godly life this reduces cases of fornication which leads to early pregnancies. Community has tried to avoid and stop discriminating, undermining and stigmatizing of these young mothers by showing them love and respect. Community is discouraging intermarrying of young people and encourages girls to return to school after birth. Parental guide, mothers to guide their daughters on development stages and body changes on how to handle themselves. Community encourages theses young mothers to live positively and feel as one family. The community has supported them even afterbirths, providing them with basic needs. To some extent the community has done nothing or less of policies in order to reduce single adolescent motherhood.

4.9 Successes of Community Initiatives

The community initiatives have been of help about 85%.The friendliness from the Community to unmarried adolescent mothers have enabled them to feel are still the members of their

community. There is love and respect on unmarried adolescent mothers so they feel loved and cared for and avoids any kind of stress hence leading positive life. Going back to school have been given unmarried adolescent mothers chance to finish their studies and attain their dream goals and this will break the vicious cycle. And on the process we have empowered society.

Compared to past where unmarried adolescent mothers were treated as outcast presently they are provided with Parental guide which have helped unmarried adolescent mothers from another unwanted pregnancies, parents makes them aware and they follow what are told since their parents have experienced enough in life than them. Nowadays mothers talk freely about sex matters to their daughters and on development stages and their body changes on how to handle themselves to know when they are safe and unsafe to avoid unwanted pregnancies. Also this enables them to understand more about their life and lifestyle.

The community support by providing unmarried adolescent mothers with basic needs and their babies have enables them to be free stress life and this has improved greatly their livelihood. Also by providing them with basic needs for them and their babies, men they won't lure them with money since they are being provided by their parents and other family members. Where unmarried adolescent mothers were alone struggling to provide for their babies and their life, they were easily lured with money in exchange of sex and in most cases they found themselves having another unwanted pregnancy and the trend follows.

Unmarried adolescent mothers are supported emotionally and not for their past has put them in clear life and try to avoid the same mistake they did since they don't want to shame their people again and this have reduced rate of unwanted pregnancies for unmarried adolescent mothers. There are a lot of campaigns in Communities to bring awareness about the harm of stigmatization, discrimination and judging unmarried adolescent mothers instead accept them the way they are. This have changed life of unmarried adolescent mothers to be focused and be stress free and have real help out the situation. Now they can freely mingle with other girls and share freely. Like in schools teachers advices other students to respect them and accept them as theirs .The moral teachings from the church on how young people to handle their life and lead Godly life and this have reduces cases of fornication which leads to early pregnancies since the

adolescent girls fear sinning. Also church have accepted back unmarried adolescent mothers but have warned not to be pregnant again, this enables them feeling once again welcomed to house of God compared when they feel are even abandoned by their God.

4.10 Government Interventions/Policies in unmarried adolescent motherhood

The study sought information about government interventions and policies. The study asked respondents how the government has helped or assisted them since they become pregnant.

The study found out that they went to the nearby clinics where they were offered free antenatal care and others services. By providing the pregnant adolescents with free antenatal care it helped many since most come from poor families .this enables them to be checked incase if they have any complications since most of them are so young even their wombs were not ready for pregnancies. Those with some complications are advised and taken care in order to reduce those complications in time.

A Key Informant said (a nurse):

“Since introduction of free antenatal care and other health facilities in public hospitals, it has been of essence and has greatly reduced complications related to pregnant teenager. Those with some complication if the medical experts realize would put life of young girl in danger to look for means as early as possible to save the situation compared to when complications were discovered during birth which was too late hence sometimes leads to lose of life.”

The free antenatal care enables those who were not able to afford these facilities got free and nothing will hinder them from going for it since it’s free. This has greatly reduced any form of complications related to teenage pregnancies since they are taken care of by medical experts.

The study found out that the government has provided free awareness on family planning and contraceptives and has provided free family planning and contraceptives in all public hospitals and other public institutions which has helped greatly in reducing the high rate of unwanted pregnancies among unmarried adolescent mothers. In the public hospitals young mothers are given free life skills training on how to handle their life in order to avoid another unwanted

pregnancy. They are provided with free family health services and are given contraceptives to use in order to control their selves from conceiving before the right time. These free contraceptives also are provided to men and have greatly helped in reducing unwanted pregnancies. These young mothers are well equipped with knowledge even to extent of telling their partners to use contraceptives.

Data from FGD indicated that even the government has localized health service. There are community health workers who teach and train us about free awareness on free family planning and contraceptives. Also they give us advice on use of contraceptives to unmarried adolescent mothers and family planning. These have helped us to remove their myths that contraceptives leads to barrenness and other fun stories. We advice our girls to follow what community health workers advice them and know how to take care their current situation are in. This has helped many people who fear going to hospital since in the household its more secrete and you can share freely with those community health workers since most unmarried adolescent mothers' fears a lot the community and in most of time are within their homesteads.

The study found out that government has provided a policy of re-admission back to school after birth in order to finish their studies to attain their dream goal. This is greatest achievement for unmarried adolescent mothers since it gives them room and humble time to finish their studies and attain their childhood dreams. When girls are discovered are pregnant, those teachers in charge counsel, guide and direct them in life so as to remain in school till time of giving b birth is due. Many girls are happy in school since real wanted to be back to school; their parents advised them not to give up are there for them.

Data from FGD indicated that nowadays at least everyone is aware of government policies and parents are trying their best to make sure their girls are back to school after birth to finish their studies since is key to successes. Some parents may already be aware of the pregnancy and are planning for an abortion and such as confrontation from teachers may disrupt their plans, this is due to pregnant students are allowed to be in school till birth is due and teachers always checks on them.

A key Informant said (high school principal):

“Mostly fathers and elder brothers who are illiterate they don’t want these young mothers to be back to school to finish their education. In most cases they want to marry off this young mother to remove a shame and burden from family. When they tell me are taking her to another school I refuse and maintain she must remain in my school. Most of them have finished their form four and passed very well. For those from poor background I help them with bursaries since our school is day school and they only pay KSH 3500 per year. This has helped many to finish their secondary education.”

The re-admission policy has of great help for many students since are given opportunity to be in school till birth is due and give them some humble time to take care of their babies then resumes back to school. The government subsidies school fees and this has even made everything easy like in the case where no one is ready to support these unmarried adolescent mothers to finish their studies. They can entirely rely on bursaries and at end of it will finish their studies.

The study found out that government has set well stipulated rules and regulations on those impregnate adolescent girls and they face the law accordingly. The local leaders are encouraged to report very pregnancies of young schooling girls to relevant authority and those who are responsible to be charged. This has of help since now people fear to be held responsible. The challenges leaders face is when they discover that one responsible for the pregnancy is young boy who depends on their parents, here they assume everything since they won’t sue those young boys.

The study found out that government has ensured reproductive health services are adequate for adolescent mothers, it provides trainings which aims at empowering unmarried adolescent mothers on their sexuality and on life skills so as to reduce their sexual vulnerability.

The study found out that government has provided economic empowerment components which focuses mostly in helping unmarried adolescent mothers to improve their skills for saving, investing and eventually starts their own business. Also government has encouraged them to make self help groups which will enables them to get loans from government, create self

employment, and this will help them even to pay their school fee and money to take care their babies.

The head teachers explained that the government should encourage the use of contraceptives, encourage seminars guidance and counseling and involvement in various activities and increase life skills counseling in schools. On the same note government has included family life in school curriculums in an attempt to educate adolescents about the consequences and responsibilities associated with sexual activates.

4.11 successes of government initiatives

Most of the government initiatives to reduce unmarried adolescent motherhood have been of help about 80%. The policy of re-admission back to school after birth have enabled many unmarried adolescent mothers to finish their studies and attain their dreams in life and are not able to impregnated again. These policies have enabled many unmarried adolescent mothers to finish their studies, even during pregnancy period they are allowed to remain in school till the time to give birth is due. Also department of counseling provide counseling service to un married adolescent mothers when they resume their studies on how to handle themselves and they challenges they will face and how to overcome them. These enables unmarried adolescent mothers to focus with their studies and eventually most have passed very well joining different universities and other collages.

The clinics and other free medical facilities set up by government have of great help in matter of health services. In the study area at least in every sub location had a clinic hence easy accessing health facilities. there is free birth in all public health facilities has of great help since it enable unmarried adolescent mothers to access free postnatal service. And this has been of great help since unmarried adolescent mothers don't missing going for clinics if they don't have money, always to attend since it's free.

The free family planning for those unmarried adolescent mothers who didn't go back to school they use family planning methods in order to avoid other unwanted pregnancies. Free

contraceptives and free awareness sexual and relations matters provided by government have real reduced the rate of unwanted pregnancy in adolescent girls.

The funds provided by the government have been of essence for unmarried adolescent mothers to be self-reliant. For those who were unable to go back to school either freely or lack of school fee like in case where the father don't want to waste his money on a mother, they are encouraged to for self-help groups which they are able to get loans from government without interest. This has enabled them to start up some business and have sustained themselves and being self-reliant. They are able to support their babies and even others have used their saving to go back to school to finish their studies.

The constitution and human rights activists are more protecting a girl child so that they have right inheritance properties from their parents. This have been of great help, those parents who chase away their girls are to be punished by law and after birth they don't force their girls to get married since they allowed even to inherit their properties. Those teachers who are responsible for pregnancies of their pupil/students are suspended even fired completely as form of punishment for what they did to their student/pupils. This has been a good example to those who are of the same character they fear engaging love affair with the young ones hence this has reduced the rate of pregnancy of schooling girls.

4.12 Conclusion

The study indicated that girls are supposed to wear descent and be smart. Mothers are supposed to guide their girls well and teach them how to respond to their body changes. Unmarried adolescent mothers face a lot of challenges from socio-economic, cultural and emotional to psychological. The community and government have provided a lot of initiative in awareness on girl pregnancies and how to reduce the rate. These initiatives have been of great help like by stopping stigmatization, discrimination and judgment for unmarried adolescent mothers have made them leading positive life and having bright future the government initiative have been real helped in reducing unmarried adolescent motherhood, many have been re-admitted back to school and they are no more vulnerable hence lured with money in exchange of sex.

CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the summary, conclusions and recommendations to the study. The study also suggests areas for further study.

5.2 Summary Findings

The study found that the largest teen birth increase was for girls between fourteen and sixteen years of age. The increase in births for this age group was more than the rate for teens seventeen to nineteen this study portrayed, through the voices of teen parents, what efforts worked to keep adolescent mothers in school even though they were at greater risk of dropping out than their non-parenting counterparts.

The study found out that unmarried adolescent mothers experienced the following challenges: lack of money, psychological torture, stigmatization, some were expelled from their families, dropped out of school, most of their friends abandoned them and to some, their fathers insulted them all the time. The study found that adolescent mothers are faced with multiple obstacles to effective child rearing. Among these risk factors are higher levels of mental health disorders, lower levels of educational attainment, increased levels of economic disparities and employment difficulties. Adolescent mothers are at increased risk of developing mental health problems because pregnancy and parenting can lead to emotional distress, which results in the pregnancy being constituted as a stressful life event. Adolescents who become pregnant are also more likely to have experienced poverty, academic difficulties, and sexual abuse, risks that increase the likelihood of emotional distress. This results in increased emotional challenges for adolescent mothers such as symptoms of depression, anxiety and hostility.

The study found out that the government has put aside a lot of initiatives to reduce unmarried adolescent motherhood. It's the duty of the government to support unmarried adolescent mother by coming up with different policies. There is policy of readmission back to school after birth. The study found that there are clinics and other free medical facilities set up by government and there is free child birth in all public health facilities. The government has provided free family

planning, free contraceptives and free awareness on sexual and relationship matters. The government has provided funds to support small business like Uwezo fund in order for unmarried adolescent mothers to be self reliant. There is well elaborated on constitution about human rights more so those concerns girl child are well set and stated by the government like on property inheritance. There is severe punishment of teachers who are responsible for pregnancies.

The community has provided awareness in order to reduce unmarried adolescent motherhood in the area. Community should be friendly to these unmarried adolescent and this enables them to feel are still the members of their community by avoiding discrimination, condemning, gossiping, ill talk, undermining and stigmatizing of unmarried adolescent mothers and instead showing them love and respect so they feel loved and cared for. Parental guide, mothers to guide their daughters on development stages and body changes on how to handle themselves to avoid unwanted pregnancies. The community has supported them even afterbirths, providing them with basic needs for them and their babies. Community members should support them emotionally and not blame the teenage mothers for having the children. Community should stop judging the unmarried adolescent mothers and accept them the way they are, this should makes the life of unmarried adolescent mothers easy to live and stress free. The church has provided moral teachings to young people on how to handle their life and lead Godly life this reduces cases of fornication which leads to early pregnancies. Community is discouraging intermarrying of young people and encourages girls to return to school after birth.

Most of the government initiatives to reduce unmarried adolescent motherhood have been of help about 80%. The policy of re-admission back to school after birth have enabled many unmarried adolescent mothers to finish their studies and attain their dreams in life and are not able to impregnated again. The clinics and other free medical facilities set up by government and there is free birth in all public health facilities has of great help since it enable unmarried adolescent mothers to access free postnatal service. The free family planning, free contraceptives and free awareness sexual and relations matters provided by government have real reduced the rate of unwanted pregnancy in adolescent girls. The funds provided by the government have been of essence for unmarried adolescent mothers to be self-reliant. The constitution and human rights activists are more protecting a girl child so that they have right inheritance properties from

their parents. Those teachers who are responsible for pregnancies of their pupil/students are suspended even fired completely.

The community initiatives have been of help about 85%. The friendliness from the Community to unmarried adolescent mothers have enabled them to feel are still the members of their community, there is love and respect so they feel loved and cared for and avoids any kind of stress hence leading positive life. Parental guide have helped adolescent girls from unwanted pregnancies, now days mothers talk freely about sex matters to their daughters and on development stages and body changes on how to handle themselves to know when they are safe and unsafe to avoid unwanted pregnancies. The community support by providing unmarried adolescent mothers with basic needs and their babies have enables them to be free stress life. Unmarried adolescent mothers are supported emotionally and not for their past has put them in clear life and try to avoid the same mistake they did. There are a lot of campaigns in Communities to bring awareness about the harm of judging the unmarried adolescent mothers instead accept them the way they are, have changed life of unmarried adolescent mothers to be focused and be stress free and have real help out the situation. The church has provided moral teachings to young people on how to handle their life and lead Godly life and this have reduces cases of fornication which leads to early pregnancies since the adolescent girls fear sinning.

5.3 Conclusions

From this study it is clear that parents/guardians and health posts are important sources of reproductive health education to adolescents and hence useful for preventing adolescent pregnancies, in contrast to past studies which did not show this critical role of theirs. Regular school attendance by teenage-mothers is not guaranteed as it is not possible for them to devote time to school work due to the responsibilities of child rearing. Absenteeism is compounded if they do not receive support from others who can help care after their children while they are at school.

Parents of teenage-mothers need to maintain an open dialogue with educators of their daughters. From this study it was found that there was a lack of communication between unmarried adolescent-mothers, parents, teachers and the school hindering the learning process. Unmarried

adolescent-mothers fall behind with their schoolwork, as there is no provision of learning materials communicated to parents. This “lost material” would enable teenage-mothers keep abreast with what was done in their absence, preventing the repetition of the same grade especially when problems are encountered during the course of the year.

Social values, norms, culture and their economic position do affect their learning. The inability of parents to afford a baby-sitter so that the adolescent mother can continue with schooling forces these students to stay at home and look after the child. For those adolescent mothers who receive financial support, learning is not kept on hold by the demands of raising a child. They have enough time to concentrate on their schoolwork and do well in class.

The majority of the adolescent mothers in this study did not consciously choose to give birth when they did. The lack of knowledge was a major contributing factor to these adolescents falling pregnant. Others did not have any attractive alternatives, being young women in a rural male dominated area, and motherhood became a consequence.

5.4 Recommendations

Teachers need to realize their massive responsibilities in helping to change the society. Their own sets of beliefs, ideologies and the stereotyped attitudes that they themselves hold, which needs to be constantly invoked as it has an influence on their adolescent mother learners. Through the positive actions, all forms of anti-social attitudes can be reversed and fears about losing face or control in the school are eased when assisting the academically needy adolescent mothers.

Teachers need to realize and respect that Kenyan women have a long history in struggling to free themselves from the conditions that have held them back. This demands teachers to be critical thinkers when it comes to the alteration and improving the opportunities for all learners, particularly female learners.

The study recommends that parents and guardians should be encouraged to educate their children about reproductive health because they can do it better as this study has shown. The study recommends that knowledge on reproductive biology should be taught in schools from elementary level which will help greatly in combating the problem of adolescent pregnancies.

5.5 Suggestion for Further Study

From the literature reviewed for this study it emerged that little research has been conducted in Kenya with the aim of understanding the learning challenges of adolescent mothers in schools. The importance of such research will lie on its strength in highlighting what is needed when providing self-empowering education to learners. Further research under this study will assist in policy formulation with clear guidelines on what needs to be done in order to witness real change in the stereotypes held about parenting students. It is also important to engage educators in such a research as they have amassed a lot of insight in dealing with parenting students in school.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX I: QUESTIONNAIRE FOR UNMARRIED ADOLESCENT MOTHERS

How are you? I am Alexander Otworu Nyagetia, a student at University of Nairobi pursuing a Masters Degree in Sociology. Its towards fulfilling the requirements of the program that I am doing a project on challenges in unmarried adolescent motherhood in Masaba Sub County, Kisii County. The study explores the cause and the challenges these unmarried adolescent mothers face, the government and community interventions in place in order to reduce this problem. The findings of this study will be used to recommend the immediate assistance to be provided in order to help these young mothers to attain their dreams in life. Every piece of information shared will remain confidential and wont disclosed to anybody else. The results of the research will be made available through the publication project paper and stakeholders feedbacks.

THANK YOU

SECTION A: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Location..... Sub-location.....

1. Respondent’s Name..... Date.....

2. Sex: Male [] Female []

3. Age.....

4. How many siblings do you have? Brother [] Sisters []

5. What is your birth order in your family?.....

6. What is your current occupation?.....

Employed [] schooling [] looking after your baby [] other (specify).....

7. What level of education did you complete?

Std 1-4 [] Std 5-8 [] Form 1-2 [] Form 3-4 [] None [] Other (specify).....

8. (For those girls who did not complete their studies to form 4 level)

What led you to terminate your studies? Pregnancy [] lack of school fees [] lack of interest [] due repeating [] other (specify).....

9. How old were you during your first sex and pregnancy?

10. Have you ever become pregnant? Yes [] No []

11. If yes, what was the reaction of your parents when they realize that your pregnant?.....

12. How did you feel on realizing you were pregnant?.....

13. How many children have given birth to? 1 [] 2 [] 3 [] 4 []

SECTION B: CHALLENGES OF ADOLESCENTS

- 14. What challenges did you encounter when you become pregnant as an adolescent?.....
- 15. How did you handle the challenges?.....
- 16. Were your family members helping or they were a part of your problems? Yes [] No [].Explain.....
- 17. Did you fear to share your challenges with your parents ?Yes [] No [] Explain.....
- 18. Did you know the father of your child?.....
- 19. If yes, is the father supporting the child? Yes [] No []
- 20. If yes how?
- 21. What was the reaction of your teachers in the school when you become pregnant?.....
- 22. What was the reaction of other members of the family?.....
- 23. What was the reaction of the community?.....
- 24. How old were you when you gave birth to your first child?.....
- 25. How are your parents and other family members helping you and the child?.....
- 26. How is your relationship with your parents now compared to before you become pregnant?.....
- 27. What are the main challenges you are facing today?.....
- 28. Are the family members aware of what you are going through?.....
- 29. Are the family members helping you to overcome your challenges?
Yes [] No []
- 30. If yes, How are they helping you?.....

SECTION C: COMMUNITY ACTION

- 31. Did you return to school after giving birth? Yes [] No []
- 32. If no, why?
No interest [] shame [] lack of fee [] nobody to take care of my baby [] parents not willing [] others (specify).....

33. If you are given a chance will you return to school?.....
34. What is main challenges you anticipate if you should return to school?.....
35. If you have already returned to school, whose idea was it that you return to school?
 Parents [] Elder brother/sister [] Uncle/aunt [] Grandparents [] other
 (specify).....
36. Did you return to the same school you were before you become pregnant?.....
- 37 .Did you experienced any problem upon your return?.....
38. How has community assisted you since you become pregnant?.....
39. What are community interventions in your life?.....
40. How successful were the community interventions?.....

SECTION D: GOVERNMENT INTERVENTIONS/POLICIES

41. How has government assisted you since you becoming pregnant?.....
42. Have government put aside some policies to assist you?.....
- 43.Are those policies helping every unmarried adolescent mother?.....
44. How successful were the government interventions?.....
45. Are these interventions enough or you need more?.....
45. Which services do you suggest should be provided to unmarried adolescent mothers to solve their problems?.....

THANK YOU

**APPENDIXII: INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR KEY INFORMANTS
(HEADTEACHER/PRINCIPALS)**

How are you? I am Alexander Otworu Nyagetia, a student at University of Nairobi pursuing a Masters Degree in Sociology. It's towards fulfilling the requirements of the program that I am doing a project on challenges in unmarried adolescent motherhood in Masaba Sub County, Kisii County. The study explores the cause and the challenges these unmarried adolescent mothers face, the government and community interventions in place in order to reduce this problem. The findings of this study will be used to recommend the immediate assistance to be provided in order to help these young mothers to attain their dreams in life. Every piece information shared will remain confidential and wont disclosed to anybody else. The results of the research will be made available through the publication a project paper and stakeholders feedbacks.

Head teacher/Principal's Name..... Date.....

1. Name of school.....

Location..... Sub-location.....

2. Sex: Male [] Female []

3. Age.....

4. How many years have you been teaching?.....

5. How long have been in the present school?.....

6. How many pupils/students are there in your school?

Male [] Female []

7. How many girls become pregnant in your school per year?.....

8. What was the distribution of the pregnancies?.....

Std 4-5 [] Std 6 [] Std 7-8 [] Form 1-2 [] Form 3 [] Form 4 []

9. Which are the main factors that contribute to early pregnancy in your school?.....

10. What do you do when you learn that there are some students/pupil who are pregnant?

Expel her [] Let her continue with studies [] Other(specify).....

11. Who is to blame for the pregnancy?

Student/pupil [] School [] Teachers [] Parents [] Community []

12. Do you offer some life skills training to young girls in your school?.....

13. How has such training helped?.....

14. Do you encourage the girls and give them hope that they will continue with their studies upon giving birth?

Yes [] No []

15. What would you suggest that the community should do to reduce adolescent pregnancies?.....

16. What would you suggest that the government should do to reduce adolescent pregnancies?.....

THANK YOU

APPENDIX III: INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR KEY INFORMANTS

How are you? I am Alexander Otworu Nyagetia, a student at University of Nairobi pursuing a Masters Degree in Sociology. It's towards fulfilling the requirements of the program that I am doing a project on challenges in unmarried adolescent motherhood in Masaba Sub County, Kisii County. The study explores the cause and the challenges these unmarried adolescent mothers face, the government and community interventions in place in order to reduce this problem. The findings of this study will be used to recommend the immediate assistance to be provided in order to help these young mothers to attain their dreams in life. Every piece of information shared will remain confidential and wont disclosed to anybody else. The results of the research will be made available through the publication a project paper and stakeholders feedbacks.

Location..... Sub-location.....

1. Respondent's Name..... Date.....
2. Age.....
3. Sex: Male [] Female []
4. What are traditional methods surrounding young adolescents in this community?.....
5. How are these method related to rites of passage in the community?.....
6. Who is responsible to teach these methods and direct rites of passage to adolescents in the community?.....
7. What is the importance of these rites of passage in the community?.....
8. How prevalent is the phenomenon of unmarried adolescent motherhood in this area?.....
9. What are the main causes of this phenomenon?.....
10. How does this community generally respond to this phenomenon?.....
11. Which challenges do unmarried adolescent mothers face in this area?.....
12. how have these challenges been tackled?.....
13. Which strategies has the community put in place to reduce single adolescent motherhood in this area?.....
14. Which strategies has the government put in place to reduce single adolescent motherhood in this area?.....
15. What are the main impacts of single adolescent motherhood in this area?.....
16. Comments generally on the issue of single adolescent motherhood in this area?
.....

THANK YOU

APPENDIX IV: INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION

How are you? I am Alexander Otwor Nyagetia, a student at University of Nairobi pursuing a Masters Degree in Sociology. It's towards fulfilling the requirements of the program that I am doing a project on challenges in unmarried adolescent motherhood in Masaba Sub County, Kisii County. The study explores the cause and the challenges these unmarried adolescent mothers face, the government and community interventions in place in order to reduce this problem. The findings of this study will be used to recommend the immediate assistance to be provided in order to help these young mothers to attain their dreams in life. Every piece of information shared will remain confidential and wont disclosed to anybody else. The results of the research will be made available through the publication a project paper and stakeholders feedbacks.

1. How prevalent is the phenomenon of unmarried adolescent motherhood in this area?.....
2. What are the main causes of this phenomenon?.....
3. How does this community generally respond to this phenomenon?.....
4. Which challenges do unmarried adolescent mothers face in this area?.....
5. how have these challenges been tackled?.....
6. Which strategies has the community put in place to reduce single adolescent motherhood in this area?.....
7. Which strategies has the government put in place to reduce single adolescent motherhood in this area?.....
8. What are the main impacts of single adolescent motherhood in this area?.....
9. Comments generally on the issue of single adolescent motherhood in this area?
.....

THANK YOU